THE WEATHER: Moderate N.E. winds, cloudy with some fair periods.

CHINA MAIL

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COMMENT OF THE DAY

NO DANGER

JUDGING from the reception that New York gave the Queen and Prince Philip yesterday no one need fear that the Anglo-American alliance is in danger of foundering. Yet that would be a superficial view if the assertion were based purely on the size of the welcome, the quantity of ticker-tape and confetti later swept from the streets and the high pitch of enthusiasm generated by this city of big-hearted people.

The Queen after all is a celebrity, another colourful personality come to see the wonders of this great city, the non-partisan head of a nation once the world's greatest and now nominal head of a vast, diverse and influential Commonwealth. New York honours the Queen who honours New York; the pulse beat reflects little more than excitement, and it ought not to be mistaken.

AFFECTION

BUT looking deeper it is possible to detect more than a courteous—and characteristic—welcome. Beyond the icing sugar greeting and the marzipan layer of sentiment underlying it, the Americans reveal a rich and concentrated affection not only for the person in whom the Monarchy is embodied, an attractive, smiling young woman with a limelight of her own, but for what she, the Queen, represents.

It is an intense relief to know that our fears and prejudices about American people turn out to be misconceptions of our own making; and that the sneers and jibes that have recently been hurled at the Monarchy were a fashion that evoked little response there. It is warming and a little embarrassing to read what the New York Press have said—and indeed to see the coverage all American newspapers have given the event.

THE IDEALS

AND it is at this point that even from this distance British people can perceive the rich and sincere respect that this institution has won for the nation and the Commonwealth. There is a better glimpse to be gained from reading the Queen's speech to the United Nations. She sets out clearly the ideals that motivate British policy and she speaks for no sectional interest yet wins the approval of all.

Few have the authority to lift sentiments like these above the level of banal cliches. Few have the ability to endow these ideals with greatness. The Commonwealth looks upon the Queen as the refreshing inspiration to political action. And speaking as the head of a family in the assembly of a greater family she is well qualified by experience to pass on the unique insight and wisdom that she has acquired in this capacity as Monarch.

This cannot be measured by academic standards or compared with profound meditations of a life-time. And it is not suggested that the Queen is any sort of superior or privileged human being, but merely the custodian of a tradition that has grown through a thousand years and more and weathered all the storms of past ages. Little else has endured like it. It is perhaps this that touched New York deepest when the Queen's car rolled down Broadway yesterday.

TURCO-SYRIAN BORDER DEBATE

Objections To Installation Of Aga Khan

Kampala, Oct. 21.

Objections to plans for the ceremonial installation of the new Aga Khan in Kampala on Friday were raised today by Buganda's native Government.

A statement from the Buganda Government headquarters said:

"Nobody but the Kabaka of Buganda can be crowned and enthroned in Buganda, other than in a house of worship."

The statement added that the Buganda Government had suggested to the local Ismaili Moslem community that the installation of the Aga Khan should be carried out in their mosque in Kampala, not in Nakivubo Stadium, Uganda's largest sports arena.

The new Aga Khan, 20-year-old Prince Karim, was installed as spiritual leader of the 20 million-strong Ismaili moslem sect in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanganyika, on Saturday.

This afternoon Mr Michael Curtis, personal aide to the Aga Khan, made the following statement on his behalf:

ASSURANCE

"I deeply regret any misunderstandings which may have arisen with the Buganda Government over the nature of the ceremony in Kampala to celebrate my accession to the Imamate.

"I can assure them and the people of Buganda that my installation as Imam has nothing but a religious significance to the Ismaili community. There would be no crowning and no enthronement.

"I appreciate, however, that the installation ceremony might conflict with Buganda customs if it were held in a public place."

Adding that he was "most grateful" for the Buganda Government's suggestion that the installation ceremony should be held in the Aga Khan Mosque in Kampala, the Aga Khan announced that the "entire ceremony" would be held there.

"I shall look forward to welcoming His Highness, the Kabaka, and his Ministers as my honoured guests," the statement said.—Reuter.

RIL Ship Still On Rocks

by a China Mail Reporter

Divers are still carrying out the underwater survey of the 8,249-ton Royal Interocean Lines Tjibantjet which was driven against the rocks in Junk Bay by typhoon Gloria exactly a month ago today.

But a spokesman of the Taikoo Dockyard told the China Mail this morning that a report was expected within the week and refloating operations would then be carried out accordingly.

An official of Royal Interocean Lines said that the RIL has not yet received a report and without a directive from the dockyard, the company was leaving everything as it was on board the liner.

"Everything on board the ship is just as it was when the vessel went on the rocks," the official said. "The cargo has not been touched. We are not doing anything until we have received a report of the survey or until we are advised to do so."

UN Called Into Session

United Nations, Oct. 21.

President Sir Leslie Munro of New Zealand today summoned the United Nations General Assembly for 3 pm EDT tomorrow to begin debate on the Syrian - Soviet war charges against Turkey and the United States.

Simultaneously, the Turkish UN delegation announced that Turkey has accepted Arabian King Saud's offer to mediate the Turkish-Syrian dispute.

Earlier today, Syrian alternate delegate Najmuddine Rifai had told newsmen that the news that "there is mediation between Syria and Turkey is not in conformity with the facts."

Rifai declined further comment on King Saud's reported mediation effort.

The indication that work is in progress, both inside and outside the UN, to settle the simmering Syrian-border situation climaxed a week-long exchange of charges and countercharges set off by the news that Russia is shipping arms to Syria.

Concern

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, speaking in the General Assembly's policy debate, expressed concern over the threat of the arms shipments for Turkey.

The eastern provinces of Turkey, one of America's staunchest allies in the Middle East, are sandwiched between Syria and Russia.

Russia countercharged that Turkish troops in menacing number are massing on the borders of Syria. Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko charged specifically last week that Turkey, with US backing and advice, is planning to attack Syria "immediately after the Turkish elections on October 27."

Syria demanded an urgent UN debate on the "threat to Syrian security and to international peace" which it said was created by the Turkish troop concentrations.

Offer

The General Assembly voted on Friday to include the issue in its agenda, and Sir Leslie Munro's announcement today was a sequel to that decision.

The report, first published yesterday, that King Saud had offered to mediate the dispute injected a new element into the situation. UN correspondents promptly sought comment from the delegations concerned.

Late today, Rifai called a press conference at UN headquarters.

"The Syrian delegation to the United Nations wishes to state that the news reported yesterday and repeated today to the effect that there is mediation between Syria and Turkey is not in conformity with the facts," he told newsmen.

Different

The Turkish delegation took a different stand.

"The Turkish Government has accepted the offer of mediation between Turkey and Syria made by His Majesty King Saud Ibn Abdel Aziz of Saudi Arabia," said a Turkish statement distributed about an hour after Rifai spoke.—United Press.

Iraq Denies Soviet Allegations

Bagdad, Oct. 21.

Iraq tonight denied Soviet allegations that she was involved in a plot against Syria.

An official communique issued here said: "The recent allegation by the Soviet news agency Tass that Iraq was taking part in a plan against Syria, together with Turkey, the United States, Britain, Israel, Lebanon and Jordan, aims only at creating trouble in the Middle East and suspicion among Arabs as well as anxiety that will help the realisation of international Communism."

In Jerusalem, Mr David Ben-Gurion, Israeli Prime Minister, today called on America and Russia to reach agreement on reducing Middle East tension, declaring "it is no longer local forces but mainly powerful external forces that are aggravating tension in the region."

In London a British Foreign Office spokesman today welcomed the reported offer of King Saud of Saudi Arabia to act as mediator between Syria and Turkey.

He told his daily news conference: "We welcome this offer because we believe it would be a constructive step towards a reduction of the tension which has recently been artificially built up in the area."—Reuter & China Mail Special.

Rosselini Denies Rift

Geneva, Oct. 21.

Italian film director Roberto Rosselini arrived here from New Delhi today, and denied all reports that he and his wife, Swedish screen star Ingrid Bergman, were planning to divorce.

Rosselini, who was en route to Paris and Rome before returning to India, described as "ridiculous" press reports that he was planning to marry his young Indian script girl, Mrs Sonali Das Gupta.

Such rumours were the products of the imagination of certain newsmen, he said.

He said he would stay two days in Paris and then would go to Rome for only a few days.

He would then return to India to complete all episodes of his new film that are set in the country, and also several documentaries, he said.—France-Presse.

HARDING LEAVING CYPRUS

London, Oct. 22.

Field-Marshal Sir John Harding, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the strife-torn island colony of Cyprus, will relinquish his post next month, it was officially announced today.

He will be succeeded by Sir Hugh Foot, Governor of the West Indies island of Jamaica.

The Bishop of Kition, acting Ethnarch of Cyprus during the exile of Archbishop Makarios, tonight welcomed the appointment of Sir Hugh as the Governor, with the proviso that "his arrival heralds a change in British Government policy towards the Cyprus problem."

Dr Fazil Kitchuk, leader of the Turkish Cypriot minority in the island, also welcomed the new appointment but with the proviso that "it does not indicate a change in policies implemented by Sir John Harding."—Reuter.

QUEEN ENJOYS VIEW OF NEW YORK

New York, Oct. 21.

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip drove directly from the United Nations to the Empire State Building, a tourist sight the Queen had specifically requested to visit. They arrived at the Fifth Avenue skyscraper and stepped onto a red carpet that was rolled to the curb.

The Queen and Prince Philip eagerly looked from the top of the building, which is more than three times taller than St Paul's Cathedral, London's highest building.

They went first to the 86th floor Observatory, where they looked at the Chrysler Building, the United Nations Building and across the Hudson River into New Jersey. The Prince peered through a telescope that had been fixed so he did not have to pay the usual 10-cent fee.

Model Presented

From the 86th floor, they went to the top of the 1,250-foot building, the 102nd floor, and then to the 80th floor for tea in an executive lounge. The Queen was presented with a gold-plated model of the building, and she and Prince Philip posed for pictures until he told a photographer asking for "just one more:"

"If you haven't got what you want now, you'll never get it." The Queen appeared as fresh as ever.

When she had finished her tea, the Queen remarked to Mr Fred Glass, a senior Vice-President of the Empire State Building Corporation:

"I enjoyed it very much. Thank you."

Prince Philip contented himself with a Scotch and soda.

Looking out through the windows, the Queen remarked, "This is one of the most wonderful views I have ever seen."

In other conversation with her Empire State Building host, the Queen remarked that she had flown the Atlantic before but this was the first time she had done it non-stop. She also said that she regretted the brevity of her New York visit and said:

"One day in New York is really just a teaser."

The Queen signed the guest book of the Empire State Building with "Elizabeth R". On the opposite page, her Consort signed "Philip."

Officials of the building turned back in the book to show her where her mother had signed on October 28, 1954. The Queen remarked, "It was only seven days later."

The Queen arrived at the entrance to the Waldorf Towers at 5.45 pm after a drive up Fifth Avenue from the Empire State Building.

Along the route, crowds stood five rows deep at the curb and cheered and waved flags.

New York police tonight estimated the crowd which greeted Queen Elizabeth along Broadway today at 675,000, which compares with the greatest the city has ever known.

The Broadway snowstorm of ticker-tape, confetti and torn paper which greeted the Queen totalled 200 tons, compared with the 3,249 tons which greeted General Douglas MacArthur on his return from the Far East in 1951.

Million Persons

More than a million persons were expected to have seen the Queen by the time she boards her BOAC DC-7C at 0445 GMT tomorrow for her return flight to London after attending a lavish Waldorf-Astoria dinner and a formal ball at the 7th Regiment Armoury tonight.

Mr James Hagerty, the White House Press Secretary, told reporters today that the Queen had not extended a formal invitation to President Eisenhower to visit Britain.—United Press and Reuter.

100 Dead In Rail Crash

Ankara, Oct. 21.

More than 100 were known dead and nearly 300 others injured, as rescue workers continued tonight to search the wreckage of the worst train accident in Turkey's history.

The crash occurred early this morning when the famous International Simplon Express was struck head-on by a Turkish passenger train near Istanbul.

Fifty of the injured were still unconscious tonight, and it was feared that more bodies remained buried in the wreckage.

The engineer of the Simplon Express managed to bring his train almost to a halt before the crash and it sustained little damage.

The local train was reduced to matchwood, and nearly all of its occupants were killed or injured.

The accident was believed due to a switching error.—France-Presse.

SOCIALISM SOLD TO CHINESE

Paris, Oct. 21.

Peking leaders have stepped up their policy to sell Socialism to the Chinese people through the initiating of new moves, Radio Peking reported today.

At present, an estimated 15,000 specially-trained political lecturers have been sent to various schools to propagate Marxist-Leninist theories.

In recent year, some 70 new Chinese Communist Party schools, exclusive of those set by Party committees in provinces and counties and of political training centres, now accommodated more than 380,000 Communist Party cadres.

From 1948-1955, the radio announced that 250,000 cadres had graduated from political schools and training centres with a thorough grasp of the theories of Marx, Lenin and others.

MAO'S REPORT

Injected in political courses compulsory for learning cadres was Chairman Mao Tse-tung's report "On Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the Ranks of People," the radio noted.

The radio also announced that more than 211 select works of Marx, Lenin, Engels and Stalin had been translated into Chinese. A total 27,900,000 copies of such works have rolled off China's presses since 1949.—France-Presse.

Youths Riot In Prague

Prague, Oct. 21.

Czech Minister of the Interior Rudolf Barak said today that "veritable riots" had broken out recently in Prague between police and gangs of young hoodlums."

Mr Barak told a special Press conference that in view of the "repeated" disorders, Czech authorities had decided to "take energetic measures." He did not indicate what these measures would be.

The Interior Minister declared that the "trouble-makers were supported by internal reactionary forces." Their disturbances had a "definite anti-government character," he said.

The youth gangs were composed of "hoodlums, absenteeists, etc, grouped around persons having criminal pasts," he said.

REACTIONARY

In provoking disorders, the youths "tried to get passers-by to join on their side," Mr Barak said. He continued: "On these occasions, it was demonstrated that reactionary forces considered these hoodlums to be their ally against the republic and hoped that these demonstrations of "the American way of life would become habitual in Czechoslovakia."

It seemed likely that similar incidents have been occurring in other Czech cities, particularly in Bratislava.—France-Presse.

VIOLENT MT ETNA ERUPTION

Catania, Oct. 21.

The volcano Mount Etna was in violent eruption tonight, with a mile-long stream of lava oozing down the crater slope on a 50-yard front.

The 10,742-foot volcano, Europe's tallest and most active, started rumbling and spouting late last night. Late this afternoon it was exploding violently six or seven times a minute and lava was oozing steadily out of the northeast crater.

The lava was edging down a well-worn path and for the time being none of the villages on the lower slopes of the mountain was in danger.

It was Etna's third eruption this year. Experts at Catania University's Volcanology Institute said the new outburst threatened to be the most severe of the three.—United Press.

Maintenance Case Dismissed In Kowloon Court

Remarking that the husband's conduct had not been such as to compel his wife to leave him, Mr I. T. Morris at Kowloon this morning, dismissed a summons by 21-year-old Zia Li-li, alias Lily Hunter, against her 23-year-old husband, Chan Wing-ming, for maintenance.

Mr Morris said the Court was further able to find that it was the husband's intention, expressly shown by his acts, that his wife should not leave the matrimonial home—in fact, he did all he could to try to induce her to stay.

"RECONCILIATION"

Mr Morris hoped, however, that a solution would be found to adjust matters between the two parties. "Reconciliation, rather than separation, has become one of the aims of most summary courts dealing with matrimonial cases," he added.

The complainant was represented by Mr H. Caine, of Messrs Johnson Stokes and Master; and the defendant was represented by Mr Patrick Yu, instructed by Messrs P. C. Woo and Co.

Delivering his judgment, Mr Morris said:

"This is a summons by the wife in which she complains that her husband has wilfully neglected to provide reasonable maintenance for her and she asks the Court for an order of maintenance.

"The parties were married at the Registry of the Supreme Court on October 26, 1956. They lived together for 10 days at 35 Kimberley Road, the house of the Defendant's parents and on the 11th day after the marriage the Complainant was compelled to leave after a most unpleasant interview she is alleged to have had with her father-in-law.

"Enough has been said in the course of this investigation concerning the incidents which the complainant claims compelled her to leave the home that had been provided for her by her husband and I do not propose to deal with the facts again.

SUFFICIENT

"It is sufficient for me to say that when this lady, in apparent disgust at her father-in-law's conduct towards her, took her departure, the husband did not immediately cease to support her, and the question now arises is whether she is entitled to an order of maintenance on the ground of wilful neglect to maintain.

(Continued on Page 8 Col. 8)

7th Fleet On Alert

Aboard the USS Bonhomme Richard, Oct. 21.

THE powerful US 7th Fleet is standing by to go "right to the back door of Suez," in the event of a Syrian-Turkish war, Vice-Admiral Wallace M. Beakley said today.

At the same time, one of the highest possible naval officials warned that Russia would be hit from all sides—from the Mediterranean, from the Pacific, from the Atlantic and from the air—should Russia attack Turkey.

"If Turkey were attacked," said Admiral Beakley, who commands the 100-plus ship flotilla that makes up the 7th Fleet, "we'd be in it up to our necks."—United Press.

AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIST CRITICISES SEATO

Hobart, Oct. 21.

Sir Douglas Copland, the Australian economist, tonight criticised the Southeast Asian Treaty Organisation (SEATO) and advocated an Australian foreign policy on Colombo Plan lines, instead of being based on military pacts and defensive measures.

Suggesting that Australia and the United States would soon have to ponder whether SEATO was tenable, he said the organisation comprised a group of nations with a population of 150 million from an area with a population of 1,500 million.

WILL OFFEND

He asked: "Do you think you can build a bridge between East and West by making friends with 150 million and taking a course that offends 1,500 million?"

Sir Douglas Copland who is principal of the Australian Administrative Staff College, added during a lecture here that Australia would not solve its dilemma by following a policy that would offend both neutrals and neutralists in the Far East when she could not tell what her allies would do at any time.

He also advocated a working recognition of Communist China and the dropping of the name "British" when referring to the Commonwealth of Nations.—Reuter.

'SUICIDE ROCK' CLAIMS ANOTHER LIFE

Monte Carlo, Oct. 21.

The so-called "Suicide Rock" near Monte Carlo Casino, where legend had it that hundreds of unlucky gamblers ended their lives, claimed another victim today.

The body of an Estonian merchant, Ugo Elssilid, aged 60, was found at the bottom of the cliff.

At his home in Monaco a hastily-scribbled note was found saying, "I have just lost a great deal of money and I am sick—I have nothing more to live for."—France-Presse.

S'pore's New Constitution

Singapore, Oct. 21.

Singapore's new Constitution granting self-government will come into force whether its controversial anti - subversive clause stays in or not the Chief Minister of the Colony, Mr Lim Yew-hock, said today.

The clause, opposed by all the Colony's political parties, was inserted by the British Colonial Office. It is designed to prevent known subversives from taking part in elections to the first Legislative Assembly under the Constitution.

The Chief Minister said an all-party meeting would be called to work for removal of the clause.—Reuter.

Ike Gets Huge Birthday Cake

President Eisenhower recently received a huge five tiered 800 lbs birthday cake—during a ceremony at the White House, Washington.

It was part of the fourteen day vote enrolling and fund raising drive, timed to conclude on the President's birthday.

The top layer—made from the President's recipe—was for the President and his family.

The other four tiers—vanilla cake—were cut and sent to 17 Washington hospitals to be shared between the patients.

Photo shows the President with members of his family—during the ceremony at the White House.

Mamie Eisenhower is on right with Mrs John Sheldon Eisenhower (wife of Major Sheldon) and her children—Dwight David (9) Barbara Anne (8); Susan Elaine (5) and Mary Jean (1½).—Keystone Photo.

OLD LAW SAVES MADAM

Paris, Oct. 21.

A lawyer for a middle-aged woman accused of operating a luxurious "call girl" establishment in a fashionable flat today won a postponement of prosecution by citing a law dating back to 1791.

Two detectives raided the flat, caught five pretty girls in evening dress there, and seized a record book with dozens of girl names, specifying the colour of their hair, measurements, languages they spoke and other information.

As a result, the woman was charged with operating a clandestine disorderly house.

IT WAS ILLEGAL

But Maitre Charles Corboni, one of France's top criminal lawyers, argued that the raid was illegal.

He maintained, "The detectives entered my client's home by virtue of a decree of July 19, 1791, which authorises police officers to enter places where debauchery is notorious. There was no notoriety involved—and the proof of this is that the police only found out about it through a confidential tip.

"Therefore, the police should have a warrant and the search was illegal, null and void, and my client must be freed."

The court took the matter under advisement for later ruling.—France-Presse.

BI-LINGUAL OPERA

Chicago, Oct. 21.

Opera lovers were hard put to follow the libretto of Ambroise Thomas' lyric opera "Mignon" on Saturday when a new tenor joined the cast.

Tenor Alvino Misciano sang in Italian; the rest of the cast sang in French.—United Press.

PAULETTE GODDARD TO MARRY

Dayton, Ohio, Oct. 21.

Actress Paulette Goddard said today that she was to be married to author Erich Maria Remarque "sometime in the future."

The motion picture star denied a report that they had been married secretly. She said that no date had been set for the wedding.

PAULETTE GODDARD

Miss Goddard is here this week to appear in the stage play, "The Waltz of the Toreadors," in which she costars with Melvyn Douglas.

Miss Goddard, who said she was 46, said her engagement to the German-born author was "running into its fifth year."

"I believe in long engagement," she said. "The longer the better. Reports like that come out about every six months. The last one came from Mexico."—United Press.

PRINCE PHILIP AND GROMYKO DISCUSS THE SPUTNIK

United Nations, Oct. 21.

The "Sputnik" made a surprise "appearance" at the United Nations today during a conversation between Britain's Prince Philip and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

The Soviet minister and his wife had been presented to Queen Elizabeth and the Prince during a brief reception for the royal couple following an address by the Queen to the United Nations General Assembly.

GESTURE

Prince Philip, who has closely followed recent developments in the conquest of space, lingered with Gromyko a few minutes after they were introduced.

During their conversation, Prince Philip made a semi-circular gesture with his hands—which the Soviet Minister quickly completed to indicate the course of his country's "Sputnik".—France-Presse.

While She's Still Going Strong

Moscow, Oct. 21.

The Soviet earth satellite will have circled the world more than 258 times by 0300 hours GMT tomorrow, the Soviet News Agency Tass reported today.

It will have travelled a total of almost seven million miles, the Agency added.

The rocket carrier will tomorrow evening precede the satellite by 46 minutes or about 13,000 miles.—Reuter.

Still A Long Way To Go

Pittsburgh, Oct. 21.

US Major David Simons, who reached a height of 100,000 feet in a balloon in August, said that scientists still did not have the necessary knowledge to send a man-controlled rocket into space.

Simons said that during his ascent he had to fight to remain alive most of the time.

He added, however, that the launching of the Soviet artificial satellite had proven that interplanetary journeys no longer belonged to the dream world.—France-Presse.

Destroyers Reduced

Jerusalem, Oct. 21.

Great Britain has decided to reduce from five to one the number of destroyers she will send on a courtesy visit to the Israeli port of Haifa soon, it was learned here today.

A spokesman for the Israeli Foreign Ministry said that on learning of the decision, his Government "understood perfectly the English point of view in the present period."—France-Presse.

Rabbit From Space?

POLICE CALLED IN TO PROBE DUBLIN MYSTERY

London, Oct. 21.

A dead rabbit found on the doorstep of a Dublin house today led to a spate of rumours in the Irish capital that the animal might have fallen from an exploding rocket.

The London evening newspaper, The Star, splashed on its front page a report that the "rabbit from space" had started a first-class mystery in the Irish capital.

The newspaper said that soon after an aerial explosion had been heard over a wide area of the city, a woman living in the Black Rock District found the rabbit.

It was still alive when she found it though badly injured in the legs and was quite dry although heavy rain had fallen shortly before its discovery.

Police were called and examined the ground nearby but could find no footprints or bloodstains and it was suggested the rabbit must have been dropped on the spot where it was found.

The Star said experts were called to the scene and telephone calls made to London. Both the Air Ministry and the Ministry of Supply, two government departments who might be concerned in such an incident, said they knew nothing about it.

Dublin police dismissed the suggestion that the rabbit might have fallen from an exploding rocket as "nonsense." They thought that the reported "explosion" might have been the sound of a foghorn from a ship at sea.—China Mail Special.

CHANNEL TUNNEL: MONTY SAYS "NO"

'Would Weaken Britain Strategically'

London, Oct. 21.

Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery, Deputy Supreme Commander of NATO Forces, today opposed the idea of a tunnel under the English Channel.

Speaking at a banquet marking the anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar, the Field Marshal said that "strategically, it would weaken this country."

He asked "Why give up one of our greatest assets—our Island—and make things easier for the enemies? The Channel tunnel is a wildcat scheme completely, and I am wholeheartedly opposed to it and I hope you are, too."

Turning to the Middle East situation, Lord Montgomery stressed the need to defend Britain's overseas sources of supplies and lines of communications.

NATO Front

He said that in his opinion, the Soviet Union would "strive for success in that direction, the indirect attack, rather than by direct aggression against the NATO front in Europe, because the indirect method is far less costly and is more likely to succeed."

Lord Montgomery said that in a future war sea power would be a decisive factor.

Nuclear Navy

"The Navy must turn over quickly to nuclear power," he added.

He went on to say that "it seems to me to be common sense that the United States, with her powerful fleets, should be mainly responsible for war in the Atlantic—and I emphasise the world mainly—with Britain playing a part.

"British seapower could then be deployed in strength in other oceans and seas, and to guard the sea approaches to our island home."—France-Presse.

Alcohol Deaths: One Every 30 Minutes

Paris, Oct. 21.

One Frenchman dies every half an hour as a victim of alcoholism, the Count de Puymege, of the "French Prestige Committee" declared today.

He made this statement in presenting the Committee's award to Andre Bertrand, President of the National Committee for Defence Against Alcoholism.

The Count maintained that the aim of the committee was not to convert the French to water drinking but simply to remind them that there were limits to the use of alcoholic beverages.

He said that alcoholism cost the French Treasury 215,000 mill francs (about US$600,000,000) annually.

The committee contends that people may safely drink up to one and a half pints of wine daily.—France-Presse.

Churchill Sees Premier

London, Oct. 21.

Sir Winston Churchill tonight had a 45-minute talk with Mr Harold Macmillan, the British Prime Minister, at 10 Downing Street.

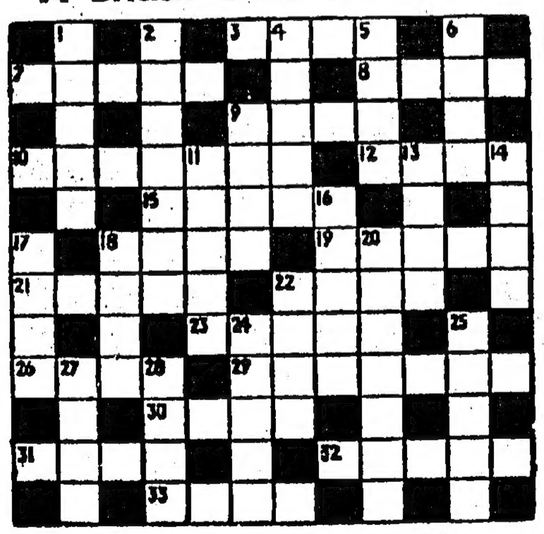
Mr Macmillan is leaving by air tomorrow night for Washington to meet President Eisenhower and Sir Winston had arranged to see him before his departure.—Reuter.

Fire On Ship

The Hague, Oct. 21.

A fire broke out tonight aboard the Holland-American Company's trans-Atlantic luxury-liner Neue Amsterdam in the port of Rotterdam.—France-Presse.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

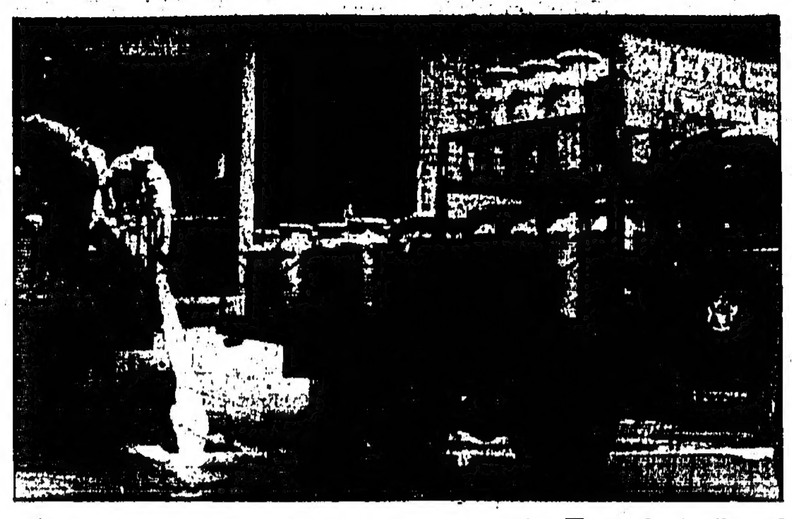
3 Murphy! (4).
7 Lay off (5).
8 Our responsibility, it seems (4).
9 The weapon of defeat? (4).
10 Close of play! (7).
12 Early bird (4).
15 Tally (5).
18 Programme piece (4).
19 What it's worth (5).
21 Enchanting warbler! (5).
22 Beautiful bunch? (4).
23 Twist some string (5).
26 Sprinkle with power (4).
29 Draw towards (7).
30 Stable food, as it were (4)
31 Far too much! (4).
32 Block-house? (5).
33 Repeat performance! (4).

DOWN

1 Decimals do so (5).
2 Stir up trouble? (7).
4 Liable to be lying (5).
5 Guy's companion (4).
6 Push sounds pleased (4).
9 Not a shaky concern (4).
11 He'll do your business for you (5).
13 You can rely on him (4).
14 Boatbuilding foundation (4).
16 It just happens (5).
17 Having been employed (4).
18 Becomes boring (4).
20 Of the usual standard (7).
22 Pieces for horses (4).
24 Timekeeper (5).
25 Journalist's favourite implement (5).
27 Not fair! (4).
28 Racecourse apparatus (4).

MONDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across 1, Scream; 7, Ream; 9, Bruin; 10, Dwell; 11, Silo; 13, Dog biscuit; 16, Dens; 10, Clan; 19, Despondent; 22, Roof; 24, Prior; 25, Ingle; 26, Lent; 27, Skower. Down: 2, Clung; 3, Ennui; 4, Medico; 5, Presided; 6, Fall; 8, Elite; 12, On-set; 13, Decor; 14, Benefits; 17, Adorn; 18, Sports; 20, Noises; 21, Eagle; 23, Open.

Radio-active Milk—Down The Drain



Thousands of gallons of milk from farms within a 200-square mile area round Windscale, Cumberland, goes down the drain and out to sea. Detectors have shown that the radio-active content of the milk was six times the permissible level — possibly dangerous to children, after the escape recently of radio-active dust through overheating from No. 1 Pile at the Windscale plutonium factory, Cumberland.—Keystone.

COLOMBO PLAN CONFERENCE

Japan Explains The Asian Development Fund

Saigon, Oct. 21.

The Japanese Vice-Premier, Mr Mitsujiro Ishii, today explained the Japanese-sponsored Asian Development Fund to the afternoon session of the Colombo Plan conference, conference sources reported afterwards.

The sources said he assured delegates from other Asian countries that the plan did not compete with the Colombo Plan, but was complementary to it.

According to Japanese sources, Japan and West Germany are the only two countries which have so far agreed to put money forward for a fund to finance Asian harvests, exports, imports and long-range developments.

Mekong River

Mr C. V. Narasimhan, executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East—a United Nations subsidiary — explained the four-nation scheme for research on development possibilities of the Mekong River.

South Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand last month agreed to co-operate on the scheme.

Mr Narasimhan is believed to have put forward the scheme as a good one for Colombo Plan help, but the sources said he did not make any direct appeal for aid to the meeting.

Meanwhile, Mr Richard Casey, Australian Minister for External Affairs, said today that Australia might have to consider setting a ceiling within the next two or three years on the number of Colombo Plan students she could take.

He said Australian universities in particular were showing signs of overcrowding.

He said Australia at present had 850 Colombo Plan students, but these were far outnumbered by the 4,000 Asian students who were studying there by private arrangement.

High Total

He said at present four per cent of the total enrolments in the universities were for Asian students, which was a higher total than for any other Western country.

Asked if Australia would favour setting up higher educational institutions in the Colombo Plan region, Mr Casey said: "We would certainly be willing to consider aid of that sort under which we could send instructors and experts to schools and educational institutions in Asia."—Reuter.

Thai Govt's Ban On Remittances

Bangkog, Oct. 21.

The Thai Government has revoked permits issued to 12 "remittance agencies" handling the remittance of money from Thailand to China, it was learned here today.

The power of approving remittances to China which amount to nearly HK$1,000,000 monthly, has now been given to the "Thailand Trust Corporation."

A police official informed concerned authorities that the government after thorough investigation had found many "irregularities" in foreign exchange dealings and had substantial proof of illegal activities of the 12 remittances agencies.

While money could be remitted to China through commercial exchange banks after approval by the Bank of Thailand, a large number of illiterate Chinese usually remit money through remittance agencies.—France-Presse.

Beat Police At OOO And XXX

Melbourne, Oct. 21.

An appeal court judge today quashed the conviction of a man who beat two policemen at noughts and crosses after he had been detained on a charge of drunken driving.

Judge Mitchell said he was satisfied that the driver was under the influence of drink at the time, but could not be satisfied that he was incapable of having proper control of his car.—China Mail Special.

ACTOR ON MORALS CHARGE

Tel Aviv, Oct. 21.

Well-known Hungarian actor Zoltan Greguss, whose arrest on a morals charge led to a diplomatic incident between Israel and Hungary, will again be questioned by an examining magistrate tomorrow.

He was arrested on September 10, accused of improper behaviour with a 12-year-old girl who went to Greguss' hotel to ask for his autograph.

He was released on bail on September 17, but ordered to remain in Israel.

The Hungarian government, taking reprisals for Greguss' arrest, demanded that Israel should recall three members of her legation in Budapest.

Hungary also pressed for Greguss' repatriation.—France-Presse.

Trade Fair In Singapore

Singapore, Oct. 21.

An international trade fair will be held in Singapore next year.

Mr R. Razak, manager of Singapore's Great World park where it is intended to hold the fair, said foreign countries would be invited to take part, and consulates in the Colony would be asked to help.—Reuter.

"Many Would Survive A Nuclear War"

London, Oct. 21.

An assertion that six to nine hydrogen bombs would wipe out life in the British Islands was rejected tonight by Miss Pat Hornsby-Smith, Joint Under-Secretary of State, Home Office, as an irresponsible statement "that is just not true."

She said that it will be clear to anyone who looks at the facts dispassionately that, however heavy a nuclear attack, great numbers of people would survive and many would need help.

To claim, therefore, that nuclear war would be the end of these islands in to shrug off the issue we all have to face.'

She added that "certainly we should lose, perhaps for a generation, much that makes life worth living. Our ordeal would be extreme. But many of us would live."—France-Presse.

Hungarian Refugee — A Planted Communist Spy?

London, Oct. 21.

The London "Daily Herald" reported today that a 21-year-old Hungarian diplomat who defected to the West really was a planted Communist spy.

The newspaper said in a front-page story that Istvan Adam, who had returned to Hungary, probably "will step into the spotlight" next Wednesday, the anniversary of the Hungarian uprising.

It said the Hungarian government hopes that Adam "will prove a powerful propagandist against new demonstrations—if the students can be hoodwinked into believing he is genuine."

Adam, a private secretary to the Hungarian Charge d'Affaires in London, deserted to the West last July. He said he was "disillusioned with Communism."

"UNFORTUNATE MISTAKE"

"His orders, it is believed, were to stay under cover in case his pose was discovered by genuine refugees," the paper said, pointing out he had not contacted any refugee organisations.

"And he was to return before October 23—Wednesday."

Last Saturday the legation said Adam "on his own initiative, had asked for permission to return to Hungary," The Herald said.

"He expressed his regret for leaving the legation and added that it was the most unfortunate mistake he had made in his life," the paper quoted the legation as saying.

It added that a Home Office official said the British authorities "have no power or wish to prevent any alien leaving this country if he wishes to do so."—United Press.

EMERGENCY OP. . . . Continuing a drama of modern surgery

Where you'll watch this fight for life

DRAWN BY ROBB AND REPORTED BY MERRICK WINN

THE terseness of urgency is the only sound now as the green-robed team sets to work. In the foreground, the anaesthetist, key man to success, prepares his injections. Behind, a mask goes on the patient. An almost robot discipline rules. . . .

The only words spoken are vital ones . . .

THE registrar said: "It's going to be bad," and the Chief said: "Yes, it certainly is." They meant that Operation Sarah would be long and difficult and probably dangerous.

In 99 per cent of modern major operations the patient has a 99 per cent chance of recovery. Sarah had a 70 per cent chance.

Not bad, not good. So every minute counted. Operate at once, or in hours she would die.

A porter helped to take her from her bed and then he wheeled her through the solemn ward to the lift. The other patients watched, thinking.

'I'm scared'

A WARD NURSE went too, and a doctor. The nurse carried the saline-drip bottle still attached by its tube to the hollow needle in Sarah's arm.

The doctor carried two pint bottles of blood.

It should have been three. But there is a shortage of blood, through a shortage of donors, and many hospitals have less than they need.

Sarah, as it turned out, could have done with four bottles. She had to have blood substitutes, which, developed in recent years, are a fair second-best.

The ward nurse with her, a kid of 18, looked upset. Perhaps partly because bottled blood has a "head" on it and because this was her first major operation.

Partners

SHE said, privately: "I'm scared." Then, wanly: "I expect I'll get used to it." But she looked hopeless, not knowing then that she would be splendid.

The lift went up to the top floor, and Sarah was wheeled into the anaesthetic room, separated from the operating theatre by swing doors.

Not so long ago she would have gone straight to the theatre for the preliminary anaesthetic. She would have seen the table, a bleak sight; she would have seen the scalpels, the forceps, the clamps, the swabs, and she would have been afraid.

Now the patient sees nothing. Sarah was to go into the theatre asleep and come out asleep. She was to have one of the severest operations in the book and not even know what an operating theatre looks like.

Some people still think of the anaesthetist merely as a sort of surgeon's "mate." Wrong. The success of an operation may depend on him even more than on the surgeon.

Anaesthetists and surgeons often pair off, becoming known as "partners." The anaesthetist in Sarah's case, a world authority and a pioneer in anaesthetic methods, has been working with the Chief for nearly 30 years.

Now he looked at Sarah, slipped a hypodermic needle into her arm almost casually and said: "What are you grinning at?"

Ready

SARAH mumbled: "I . . . I . . ." and that was as far as she got. Her eyelids fell shut like a doll's, not even flickering. Out—in five seconds flat.

She was now ready for the theatre. The porter wheeled her in, followed by the uneasy nurse still holding the saline drip. Both were masked, and wore caps and gowns.

Yes, the porter too. He belonged to the team that was trying to save Sarah. He was the 13th member.

The others? The Chief, the anaesthetist, senior registrar or No. 2 surgeon, house surgeon, house anaesthetist, a student theatre sister, two staff nurses three student nurses.

All wore masks and caps and white rubber boots; and the men wore gowns and the nurses gowns or short-sleeved coats. Not white, but dark green, because green is less tiring to the eyes.

No one wore much underneath. It was to be hot under the 500-watt lamp above the table. This was, very truly, to be a scene of blood, and sweat, and toil, with the threat of tears.

Now the time was near. This was the crisis. These were the moments when Sarah was so very near to dying.

A shrug

THE anaesthetist fixed a mask to Sarah's face, turning the knobs of two cylinders painted black and white for oxygen, blue for nitrous oxide (laughing gas). This was the general anaesthetic.

The Chief and all taking actual part in the operation "scrubbed up" and pulled on rubber gloves. And the work began.

The time was 11 minutes past 5. At 5.46 the Chief and the registrar both straightened. They looked at one another.

The registrar shrugged, saying nothing.

And the Chief said: "Fraid so."

—TOMORROW—
The mastery of the Chief

THE FOUR MEN FROM MOSCOW

by Victor Feather

ASSISTANT SEC. OF THE T.U.C.

Why were the four men from Moscow so gloomy at the recent TUC Congress? The reason was that the tiny British Communist Party and Soviet policy came in for severer punishment than they have received for many years.

OUR 1957 Congress ended on September 6. It was held at Blackpool, a seaside resort on the north-west coast of England. Over a thousand delegates attended. They represented every union affiliated to the TUC, a total of 8,400,000 members.

In the public balcony on each of the five days were seated another thousand people drawn from the general public who were there as interested visitors; there were also observers from Government departments, great industrial concerns and foreign governments. In addition there were 250 Press men and representatives of radio and television.

Among the observers were four diplomats whose faces grew more gloomy as the week progressed. They were from the Soviet Embassy in London, sent by their Government to report what was happening at Blackpool in this great industrial parliament of Britain, the British TUC.

Why was their gloomy spirit so obvious? Perhaps because the ludicrously small stooge organisation of the Soviet Union in Britain, the Communist Party, was getting a more severe chastisement than it has received for many a long year; and that is saying a lot, because Communist spokesmen have never received much support from people like the mineworkers, the textile workers, the steelworkers, the transport workers and all the other representative organisations, large and small, which make up the British Trade Union Movement.

Tight Lipped

The thirty or so members of the Communist Party among the union delegates have learned to be thick-skinned in the past because of the many rebuffs they get. They had little to say for themselves at this Congress. So perhaps now they have learned how to be tight-lipped.

They have good reason to be so. Since their shameful support of Soviet aggression against Hungary, the Communist Party in Britain has lost almost a quarter of its membership. Its membership of 35,000 is down to a mere 26,000, and among those who have left the Communists are many men who have been members of the Party for almost half their lives. Young men with some idealism, who had believed false Communist propaganda and thought the Communist Party fought for the oppressed, were staggered and shaken when they heard the excuses put forward by the Communist leadership to absolve the blatant aggression and oppression of the Soviet Union against Hungary. Others, who had thought that Marxism was the basis of the Communist Party's ideology, were shocked into resignation when they realised that Soviet foreign policy alone is the basis of national Communist Party policy in all countries in the world.

The ancient professional leadership of the Communist Party here in Britain, of course, has not resigned. It is an aged leadership, with most of its national leaders climbing steadily into the 65 and 70-year-old age group, with no young leaders coming up to replace them. There are many people who believe that this aged Communist leadership has not resigned simply because they have no energy left to take up their pens to write.

Although Communist membership in the British Trade Union Movement has always been small, the thirty or forty Communists who are delegates to the TUC have been very vocal in past years. This year they were as quiet as mice, perhaps thinking that if they made little noise they would not be noticed. They thought it wisest to take shelter against the storm of angry trade union opinion in Britain about the violation of Hungary's freedom a few short months ago.

Free Speech

So, therefore, no disciplined Communist spokesman at the Congress dared to challenge the action which the General Council of the TUC have taken during the year to assist the unfortunate victims of Khrushchev's brutality. But one life-long member of the Communist Party went to the rostrum to speak in support of Soviet aggression. He is well-known in Britain as a man on whom even rigid Communist discipline has little effect. He is a contradiction in himself. He is an individualistic Communist. The statements he made were orthodox enough from a Soviet point of view. It was like a gramophone record of Khrushchev—a gramophone record of the Soviet Government's lies about the massacre in Budapest. And the delegates let him know, in no uncertain manner, of their strong disapproval of his statements. Nevertheless, he was given a full opportunity of addressing the Congress; and the interrupters, who were so incensed at the hypocrisy of the statements he was making, were called to order by the Congress President, who pointed out that no matter how much the delegates might disagree with the view which the Communist spokesman was expressing he had the right to speak. The answer, he said, could be given by other delegates who wished also to avail themselves of this democratic and traditional method of free speech in the British TUC.

Criticism

The faces of the four Soviet diplomats in the public gallery grew more gloomy still as they saw with their own eyes that here was the most representative body of work-people in any part of the world expressing horror and disgust at the actions of the Soviet Government against the attempt of workers in Hungary to throw off the Soviet thraldom and establish a free and independent democratic State.

There was another lesson there in Blackpool for the four men from Moscow. They saw that in Britain a spokesman of the Communist Party is given the right to speak his mind and is protected in that right by people who detest what he says.

In later discussions of different topics delegates went on the rostrum to express their strong disapproval of decisions of the British Government. But has anyone ever heard of a Soviet worker daring to go on the rostrum at any conference of any kind in the Soviet Union to denounce the Soviet Government?

AMBASSADORS OF EARTH

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SEMINOLES EXTEND WINNING STREAK TO SEVENTEEN GAMES

Down Wah Ying 13-6 In Junior League Game

By "TIME OUT"

Fresh from their triumph over their bitter rivals, the Cheyennes, on Sunday last, Ed Carvalho's pennant-bound Seminoles extended their winning streak to 17 games since they first joined the Men's Junior League at the start of the 1956/57 season when they ran out easy winners against Wah Ying in the first of two League games played off yesterday, scoring 13 runs and conceding 6 to the opposition.

In the only other softball game of the day, the listless Cheyennes, still smarting from their defeat at the hands of the champion Seminoles, almost paid the penalty for underestimating the fighting qualities of Yee Jick-fai's War Eagles as only poor finishing prevented the Eagles from pulling off an upset in a game which the Cheyennes just managed to win by 18 runs to 14.

Regular Seminole starting pitcher Lal Dagnram, resting on his laurels, turned over the mound chores to Ray Pacheecho. Playing errorless ball, the Seminoles blanked their opponents for four innings whilst their heavy artillery opened up on Wah Ying hurler K. W. Chang and the scoreboard registered 11 runs before the champs eased up.

Six runs were let in during the top of the sixth inning as the Seminoles relaxed their vigilance. Just to make doubtly sure, the tribe added two more runs to bring the final tally to 13 and to bring the morning's proceedings to a close.

For the Seminoles Klondike Wong and Robert Graca caught the eye with some heavy willow work, the former connecting for a perfect 4 in 4 which included two triples, a double and single while Graca poled out a tremendous homer to left-field in the opening inning.

Noticeable Display

The Cheyennes had players in unfamiliar positions when they took the field overconfidently against the War Eagles. This show of bravado quickly gave way to a noticeable display of what is commonly referred to as "the jitters" when the War Eagles jumped to an 8-4 lead in the first three innings. The score was tied at 11-all at the end of the 5th inning. Both sides scored a run each in the next inning but in the final chapter the Cheyennes took advantage of 5 walks to score six more runs to bring their total to 18 whilst the best the War Eagles could do was to notch up a pair.

The winners had to contest this game inning by inning as a stubborn Eagles' defence refused to give ground and but for the atrocious finishing of the losers a different story would have been told.

AT PRACTICE

Canada Cup Competitors Turn In Under Par 68s

Tokyo, Oct. 21.

Harold Henning and Gary Player of South Africa and Stan Leonard of Canada turned in the best scores, all four under par 68, at the first day's official practice at Kasumigaseki today.

All competitors today went to the Kasumigaseki Country Club's course, 50 miles north of Tokyo, to practise for the International Trophy and Canada Cup tournament, due to begin on Thursday.

The Americans, Sam Snead and Jimmy Demaret, made off to the nearby Tokyo Golf Club's course for a "secret" practice.

The three Commonwealth golfers' practice scores today equalled the official course record.

On Friday Sam Snead bettered the course record with a six under par 66 on his first practice on the course.—Reuter.

SMALL BORE LEAGUE STANDINGS

The following are the up-to-date standings in the Island Small Bore League:

1, Police Rifle Club, 3,347 points.

2, Prison Department Sports Association, 3,320.

3, Green Howards, 3,316.

4, Hongkong Auxiliary Air Force, 3,128.

5, Home Guard, 3,121.

6, Police Training School, 2,988.

7, Military Prison Corps, 2,933.

8, Hongkong Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, 2,947.

9, RAF Tsat Wan, 2,856.

10, Hongkong Regiment, 2,611.

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

1, R. Noddings (PRC), 197.6;

2, Loo San-ting (PRC), 192.3;

3, R. B. Brimmicombe-Wood (PDSA), 190.6;

4, C. J. Norman (PDSA), 189.6;

5, Robinson (Green Howards), 188.75;

6, L. Travis (PDSA), 188.4;

7, E. K. Abbas (Home Guard), 188;

8, P. Garforth (Green Howards), 186.25;

9, J. P. Balleros (Home Guard), 186.1;

10, Sabine (Green Howards), 186.

BENAUD 6 FOR 11

North Rhodesia 73 For Seven Against Aussies

Kitwe, Oct. 21.

Shattered by the spin-bowling of Richie Benaud, who took six for eleven in a spell of 7.6 overs, Northern Rhodesia lost seven wickets for 73 runs before lunch on the second day of their match against the Australian cricketers here today.

Northern Rhodesia were 10 for no wicket at Saturday's close in reply to the Australian first innings total of 302 for 6 declared.—Reuter.

IRISH LEAGUE SOCCER

London, Oct. 21.

Distillery beat Cliftonville 3-0 in an Irish League City Cup football match tonight.—Reuter.

I HAVE MY SAY

COME OFF YOUR LITTLE ROCK, JACK SOLOMONS

By HARRY CARPENTER

What an outrageous and untimely step Mr Jack Solomons takes! Recently he announced, not without pride, that he was applying to have the Willie Pastrano-Dick Richardson fight on October 22 "officially and universally recognised for the WHITE Heavyweight Championship of the World."

Floyd Patterson, the reigning champion, is, of course, an American Negro. Mr Solomons told me himself he could see nothing wrong with his idea.

EVERYTHING IS WRONG WITH IT!

I thought the obnoxious notion of emphasising the colour of a man's skin as a promotional gimmick had long since died an unlamented death in Britain. It would be a retrograde move to resurrect it at any time.

To do so when the fever over Little Rock, Arkansas, has yet to abate smacks either of colossal ignorance or complete disregard for good taste.

Inflammatory

Once upon a time hard-boiled fight promoters, stuck for a publicity stunt, signed up white and coloured rivals so that they could flaunt the inflammatory banner, "Black v. White."

Such hideous practices have long since been stamped out by the British Boxing Board of Control. I shall be shocked if their attitude to Solomons's application is not one of complete repugnance.

Solomons significantly reaches well back into the past for his precedent. He says:

"There is nothing new about this business of having a champion defined by colour. In 1935 I saw Larry Gains and Obie Walker fight in Leicester for what was called the coloured heavyweight championship. They even wore white gloves. I think it's a good idea."

I wonder—does Mr Solomons consider it a good idea for fighters to be segregated as they are in South Africa at the present time?

To take just one example: Little Zulu Jake Tuli had to come here to win the Empire flyweight title from a white man, Teddy Gardner.

Discrimination

Discrimination by colour is deplorable no matter where or how it occurs, and Mr Solomons does not make his case any better by saying:

"We must not bring colour or politics into boxing, but every world heavyweight these days seems to be a Negro and if we can get a white champion, then he would automatically be in line for a crack at Floyd Patterson."

Mr Solomons is Jewish. How extraordinary it is to hear such abysmal arguments from a member of a people who, above all others, have been martyred by race prejudice throughout the centuries.

NOW JACK SOLOMONS HAS A SAY

HARRY CARPENTER'S stinging attack on Jack Solomon's White Heavyweight Championship proposal was like a blow under the heart to the promoter. He replies:

Dear Harry,—I have carefully read your article headlined "I Have My Say." How misleading some of your statements can be!

I would dearly love to "Have MY Say," but unfortunately, even after this letter, you can still have the final word, as you have the column, and not me.

You say: "I wonder—does Mr Solomons consider it a good idea for fighters to be segregated as they are in South Africa."

'No Segregation'

How misleading, Harry! There is no segregation in my mind. Remember, only as recently as September 17: Erskine v. Cooper, Turpin v. Boulgroune, and Pompey v. Sullivan! Is that your idea of segregation?

You go on: "discrimination by colour is deplorable, no matter where or how it occurs" ....I could not agree with you more. Did I not match Ray Robinson and Randy Turpin, Archie Moore, and Yolande Pompey—both in world title fights! Is that your idea of my colour bar, Harry?

I have never had a colour bar in my whole life and do not intend to start now.

In view of this explanation, I think your last paragraph disgusting, and in bad taste.

Yours sincerely,
JACK SOLOMONS.

France—Latest Country To Ban Sponge Bat

Effective After June 30

Paris, Oct. 21.

France is the latest country to ban the sponge table tennis bat.

The French Table Tennis Federation announced today that it has forbidden its players to use this type of bat until after June 30 next year.

This step has been taken on the suggestion of the International Federation to play a season without sponge.

Several European countries have fallen into line and it is thought that if a majority of nations ban the bat, sponge will disappear from the game. "We are afraid we shall not obtain a majority but, nevertheless, we are giving it a trial," said an official of the French federation.—China Mail Special.

WILLIE WOWS 'EM DOWN SOHO WAY

London.

Willie Pastrano, from way down yonder in New Orleans, ambled through the strangely quiet acres of deepest Soho the other day looking more like a 1,000-dollar student tourist than a man whose intentions are strictly confined to beating our heavyweight Dick Richardson at Harringay today.

It was Willie, the well-dressed man, who made the odd bystander stop and look back. Because Willie is a distinctly natty dresser.

Maybe his dark blue, single button suit with its red flecks and cloth buttons would not have been well received in Savile-row but down in Soho it was a wow. So were Willie's black and white plaited shoes.

In fact it was pretty hard to get down to Pastrano the fighter. Pastrano rated the fourth most lethal man in the world. Now if Pastrano had come here to sing notes instead of swing punches Willie would have had the teenagers screaming their silly heads off.

You see, Willie carries none of the battered trade marks of his cauliflowered calling. With his Marlon Brando hair-do and his dark Italian good looks he looks like something from Hollywood rather than the maul house of Madison Square.

Anyhow, Pastrano would never have been a fighter had not his papa Frankie been the best chef in all New Orleans, the undisputed minestrone champion, the top man in spaghetti, and on his own as master of ravioli.

'Billy Bunter'

See what happens? Willie really gets to work on papa's cooking and in no time at all he looks like Billy Bunter and Pastrano has no wish to look like little fatso, or a junior British heavyweight.

So Pastrano, aged 12, waddles his 5ft. 2in. and 12st. 12lb. four miles out to the local gymnasium, sneaks in for free and gets down to the battle of the bulge.

Willie sees many citizens working out along the old grunt and thud racket and reckons he could not do worse. So, aged 15, he finds himself suspended for six months for fighting under age.

Aged 19, graduated from high school, married to his schoolgirl sweetheart Faye, he had a child and no pay packet. He was deciding to quit and look for a job although Pastrano rolls those dark brown eyes in deep distress when you mention the word "Work." But Willie was saved from this humiliation by a cable to fight out at Miami.

And Willie carried right on . . . 52 fights, five draws, five defeats, and a record of never having dusted the ring with the seat of his pants.

Willie is not one of your dynamite, destructive, hit-it-if-it-moves Americans. He is rated a British stylist, the fastest heavyweight in the world, the man who spars with featherweights because he might catch cold with the bulkier boys.

And Willie knows all about the British rules of boxing. He says with an endearingly bland air: "I just know all your rules. I've been brain-washed for this expedition."

Family Man

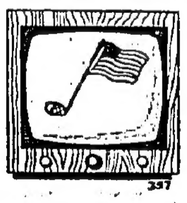
And he needs no nudge to get talking about his family: "I've got a millionaire's family, a boy and a girl. And that boy has me out every Sunday.

He's in the gym and he's only two, that man Janny. You can see him, just a speck throwing punches among all the busy boys. But I reckon that the bum's going to be a southpaw."

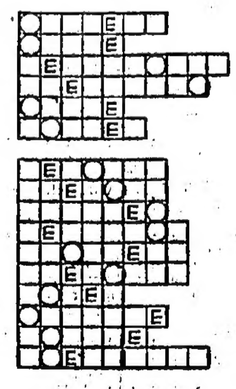
If Pastrano is half as entertaining in the ring I am looking forward to October 22. Of Richardson he says: "I only know he has two hands and he's rough and tough. I talked to him on the phone this morning and he seems a nice sort of fellow."

—(London Express Service).

NAMESAKES



INSTRUCTIONS: Fill in the spaces against each of the clues below with a word related to my life. The letters in circles spell out my name. Who am I?



1 Asses
2 This Christmas
3 Party not in majority
4 This theatre
5 Dwelling
6 Expresses
7 Public
8 Continent
9 Social events
10 Representatives
11 Has two houses
12 Never forgets
13 In a ballot?
14 Fighting
15 Roman gathering
16 Chairman

Solution on Page 9

THE GAMBOLS . . . by Barry Appleby

This Funny World

"Why don't you assert yourself? In my house I only dry them."

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

THE experiments being made —and watched breathlessly by hatters—to find out the connection between hat-wearing and baldness lack imagination.

The Grampound Experiment is fresh in the public memory. It resulted in the startling announcement that if a man is kept in a hat, day and night, for long enough, say, 40 years, he will begin to go bald. It was also found that sleeping in a hat until one is accustomed to it, affects the nerves, which, in turn, affect the normal growth of the hair. It has been suggested that that postman would make a good guinea-pig, but his fiancee, Gertrude Malt, will not hear of such a thing, and his mother said: "Arnold has done enough for Science. Nor does the idea of sleeping in a postman's hat recommend itself to him. I never heard any sensible person attribute a new-born baby's baldness to a hat."

The telefire

THE Parliamentary Secretary to the Power Ministry (sic), in his slashing attack on open fires, was supported by a Health Inspector, who gave a hint of what we may expect. Not the hearth, said he, but the television set is the "focal gathering point" of a household. A combined television set and electric fire (with sham Yule logs aglow) is the answer. Round the telefire healthy families will gather in health-giving silence. Outside, the air will be clear and pure and salubrious, except for industrial smoke, diesel fumes and other necessary irritants.

Prednose: Why "snc"?

Myself: I am paid by the word.

Nothing to do with me

IT is not every day that a husband brings home to his wife "700 yards of pink plastic-covered electric cable," and tells her to knit him some underwear with it. The account of this incident says that the wife "got a shock." For no reason at all this reminds me of the sailor's wife at whose house 33 cartloads of tree-bark were delivered. A postcard from the sailor asked her to make sunhats out of the bark for the runners in next year's Derby. "At first," said the wife, "I thought it was a joke."

TARGET

O	T	N
Y	N	E
V	I	R

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters in the square on the left? In making each word, the letters in each of the small squares may be used once only. Each word *must* contain the large letter in the centre square, and there *must* be at least one nine-letter word in the list. No plurals; no foreign words; no proper names. TODAY'S TARGET: 29 words, good; 37 words, *very good*; 47 words, *excellent*. Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: Alms alum amis animus asim atim atim atim autim aumin limn mail main malis manis maul maul mias mina minus mauus mulis mutual muslin seam slam slim slum sumas ulmin UNMUSICAL

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

BORN today, you have a tremendous store of energy and abounding vim and vigour. Emotional and dramatic, you approach life with such verve and fire that you tend to wear yourself out unless, from time to time, you take "breathers" to relax nervous tensions. Your physical stamina is not as great as you believe it to be and your mind wears out your body!

You must have life and activity about you at all times and will be happiest if you live and work in the city where there is always a great deal going on around you. You may like the idea of nature and the country, but a few visits during the lush spring and summer weather and another in the autumn are about all that your temperament can stand! The slow, pastoral life is definitely not for you!

Your emotions are near the surface and it is likely that you will have more than one romance during your lifetime. In fact, you of the fair sex may be rather more flirtatious than is wise. You like to keep a string of admirers without making your selection of a marriage partner. Watch out—or you may delay things so long that you may get left behind! Although you may think you have fallen in love at first sight, it is wiser to give marriage that long, second thought!

It is likely that the stage will offer a highly successful career. In any event, your life is very sure to be a lively and exciting one, for you seem to attract the unusual wherever you go.

Among those born on this date were: Giovanni Martinelli, operatic tenor; Sarah Bernhardt, Cissie Loftus and Frances Drake, actresses; Samuel Warren Abbott, pioneer in public health education; James A. Gary, statesman; Leopold Damrosch, musical conductor, and Frank McGrath, actor.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Place yourself on a rigid timetable or you will find that you have more to do than time in which to do it!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—There seems to be no limit to your current success potential. You may accomplish now anything which needs doing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Wisdom and foresight, combined with keen, intuitive judgment, will help you to make the right decision today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Be alert to any new and exciting opportunity which is offered. Be ready to jump into instant action.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Lucky breaks can make all the difference between success and failure. Be sure you are thoroughly alert.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Confidential matters—perhaps a legacy from an unexpected source—are all in today's panorama. Partnership business is excellent.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Be precise and wide awake in all your dealings. A business trip can result in excellent results for you.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—If you are hunting a new job, your chances of finding it today are excellent. Health aspects also improve.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Today begins a four-day cycle of exceptional good fortune. Be sure that you take full advantage of it.

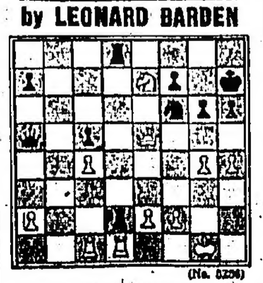
CANCER (June 22-July 23)—The stars are turned in your favour and you must do everything to see that you benefit from the trends.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—You can come out on the winning side today, so put forth all your efforts to reach an important ambition.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Schedule your work so that you tackle essential necessities first. Use any time left over for other things.

CHESS

by LEONARD BARDEN



(No. 5236)

From the Moscow team tournament: White to move and win.

Solution No. 5235: 1 B—R6 (threat 2 R—Q3); P×R; 2 Q×B, or Q×Kch; 2 R—B3, or P×Kt; 2 Q×P, or K×Kt; 2 Q×Q.

London Express Service

• JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Crystal Ball Play Succeeds

By OSWALD JACOBY

SOUTH'S jump to three hearts was quite an overbid but I have seen lots worse game contracts brought home successfully.

West opened the four of spades and East played the eight. South won with the jack and led a low heart to dummy's king.

At this point East became clairvoyant. He played the three of hearts just as if he had no problem in the world.

A second heart was now led from dummy and East played the nine. No one can blame South for going wrong right here. East could have a perfectly sound opening bid without the ace of hearts so South played the ten from his own hand. West made his jack and East's three aces were left to set the contract.

NORTH 30
♠ Q 7 3
♥ K 5 2
♦ 10 8 7 6
♣ J 5 4

WEST
♠ 10 5 4
♥ J 7
♦ J 9 5 3 2
♣ 9 8 3

EAST (D)
♠ K 9 8 6 2
♥ A 9 3
♦ A 4
♣ A 7 6

SOUTH
♠ A J
♥ Q 10 8 6 4
♦ K Q
♣ K Q 10 2

No one vulnerable

East	South	West	North
1 ♠	Double	Pass	1 N.T.
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead—♠ 4

If East had played his ace of hearts on the king, South would have made his contract. He would have been unable to get to dummy to finesse against the jack and willy-nilly would have had to lay down the queen, whereupon the jack would have fallen.

I called East's play clairvoyant because he had no way of knowing that South was going to play the trump right back. For all East could tell South might have needed that entry to dummy for a club or diamond lead and East's duck might have cost him the game instead of saving it for him.

I do want to give East one great credit. He did not double four hearts with his three aces and king. If he had done so I am sure that South would have played East for all three aces and wrapped up his contract.

CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:

East	South	West	North
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	?		

You, South, hold:
♠K J 9 8 7 ♥A Q 8 7 ♦J 2 ♣A 4
What do you do?

A—Pass. It is far too dangerous to try a heart bid now.

TODAY'S QUESTION

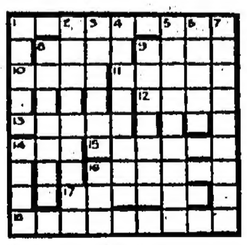
You have the same hand. The bidding has been:

East	South	West	North
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 N.T.	?		

What do you, South, do?

Answer Tomorrow

CROSSWORD



Across
1. It needs a nib to make it work. (3-6)
8. A stranger to the truth. (4)
9. Ode or sonnet. (4)
10. Years and years. (4)
11. Best suit? (5)
12. An archbishop (4)
13. Places? (5)
14. Cold. (3)
15. Flower-holders. (6)
16. Noisy lovelies? (6)
17. The best of the bunch. (6)
18. Reveals someone again in true colours. (2-7)

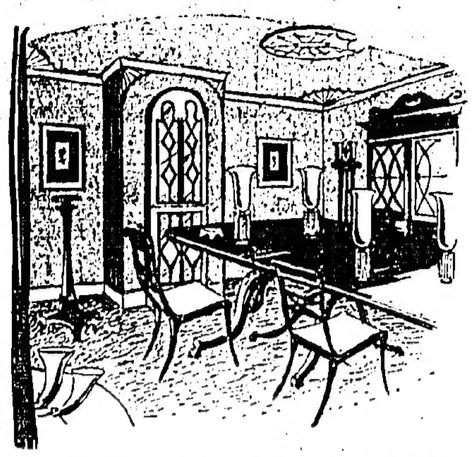
Down
1. Newspapers. (5)
2. Eight below a famous P.C. (9)
3. Mistaken meals? (6)
4. Academy temperament? (8)
5. No denying it. (9)
6. No real answer. (5)
7. Top ladies (9)
8. This is correct, according to the mind. (7)
9. Get ready. (7)
14. Dear Mr. Novello. (4)
16. Half a dozen. (3)

Yesterday's solution

WOMANSENSE

DOES COLOUR COUNT?

By Veronica Papworth



I THINK OF DR. DRIMMER IN NORMAN HARTNELL'S ROSY DINING ROOM

IT was Eva Gabor's husband number 1—Dr Eric Drimmer — who first talked COLOUR THERAPY to me. That was some years ago when I was very much more impressionable and Dr Drimmer was quite devastatingly good looking.

Which is why, no doubt, he had no trouble in convincing me that a man's digestion might well be ruined if his dining-room walls were the wrong colour.

I've learned since that it takes more than an ill-chosen wallpaper to put most chaps off their food. But I couldn't help thinking of Dr Drimmer again as I sat in Norman Hartnell's dining-room.

The Hartnell colour scheme is guaranteed to make the most unreceptive stomach purr.

Shaded candles

In fact, his guests dine—bathed in a rosy glow—by the light of candles shaded with red venetian glass. The walls and ceiling are vieux rose—with a white cornice and white plaster ceiling decorations.

The carpet is a deeper shade of rose. Furniture is Regency mahogany.

See how the fireplace has been converted with cupboard above and radiator below.

It's a perfectly lovely room—and a colour scheme well worth considering.

Particularly if you've a peptic husband.

Still Some Time Left For Fun At A Picnic

By ALICE DENHOFF

AS the season wanes, picnics take on added importance and everyone with a job to do falls to with a will to make the al fresco feast a success. Little extras are added and new recipes introduced along with the tried-and-true favourites.

For example, try this one:

Combine 4 c. (1 qt.) unsweetened pineapple juice, 4 c. orange juice (fresh, tinned or frozen), 1 c. lemon juice and 5 c. grapefruit juice (fresh or tinned) with juice from a 15-oz. bottle of maraschino cherries. Add the cherries, thinly sliced, and sugar, if desired. Chill thoroughly.

Pour into a thermos jug and, just before leaving, add cracked ice to jug. Makes approximately 3½ to 4 qts.

For a truly delicious drink to take to the picnic, try this coffee punch.

To prepare 1½ qt. or 6 servings, melt 2 oz. chocolate over boiling water.

Have 4 c. freshly-made coffee chilled and add 2 c. to the chocolate, stirring until blended. Add remaining coffee and ½ c. maple syrup. Chill and place in shaker with 1 c. cream, whipped, and cracked ice. Shake vigorously until well mixed. Pour into a thermos jug and keep in the refrigerator until ready to leave. Shake once before pouring from jug.

Banana bran nut bread will make any sandwich a treat even if the filling or spread is just everyday fare.

To make 1 loaf, combine 1 well beaten egg, 1½ c. mashed bananas (4 to 5 fully ripe or all-yellow bananas) ¼ c. melted shortening and 1 c. bran.

Sift together 1½ c. sifted flour, 2½ tsp baking powder, ½ tsp each baking soda and salt and ½ c. sugar. Add ½ c. broken nut meats and mix well.

Add to banana mixture, mixing only enough to dampen all flour.

Turn into well-greased bread pan (8½x4½x3 in.). Bake at 150° F. about 70 min. or until bread is done.

—LINEN—

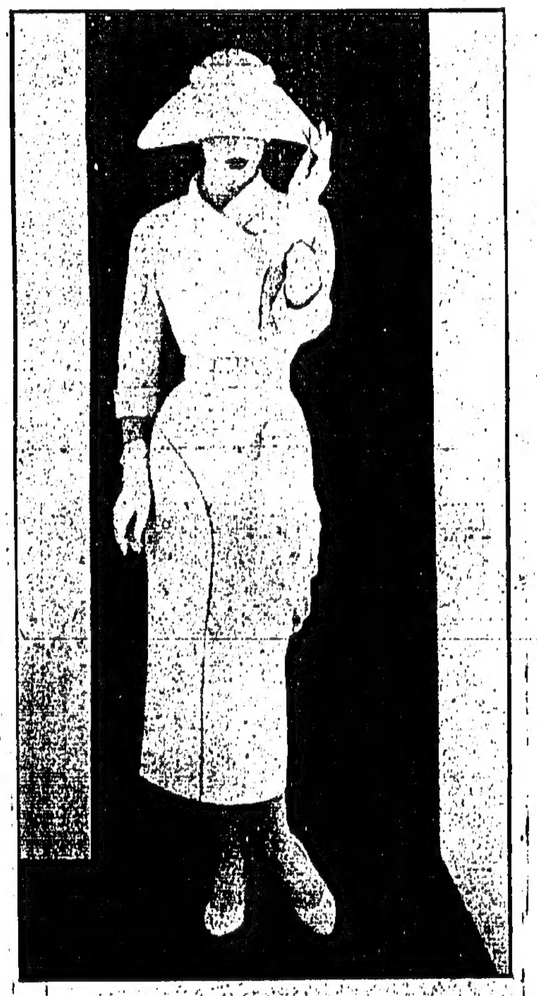
IT'S PRACTICAL And Elegant

IT has been said that nobody has to teach an Eskimo how to make an igloo that works: the moral being that some of the earliest discoveries of civilised men are his most successful. One of these discoveries is the long, strong thread made from flax which was in use in the Egypt of the Pharnohs and in Roman Britain.

It made a strong, almost ever-lasting cloth, which according to the needs of its users, could be turned into shrouds for royal tombs, rare vestments for priests and princes, good tough hard-wearing clothing for peasants, and excellent fishing lines. It would wash like a rag, absorbed water as you looked at it, could be fine or coarse according to your resources.

A LOOK OF DISTINCTION

It will still do all these things, and a few more. It will not drip-dry, but it will dry very quickly and, as it can be washed and ironed at as high a temperature as you dare wash or iron any fabric, it takes less than half-an-hour, ironing it damp with a hot iron, to give even a low-priced linen fabric a look of distinction that only a cloth with a lively grain and a repertory of weaves can accomplish.



This is just one of the many extremely chic fashions created from Irish linen. It is a modified sheath dress in creamy yellow, the smooth hip-line of the skirt accentuated by the soft tailoring of the mock wrap-over.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

The New Playground

—The Shadows Couldn't Find It Without Merlin—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF, the Shadow Boy with the turned-about name, had just said to his sister Hanid: "I'm getting tired of the playground we always go to. I wish we could find a new one."

"There aren't any new playgrounds in this neighbourhood," Hanid said.

At that moment, Mr Merlin the Magnificent Magician, came walking out from behind the bookcase where he lived. He was all dressed in his outdoor clothes. He was wearing a green corduroy jacket and brown shorts and rubber-soled shoes.

He Bowed Low

"Good morning, my dears," he said, as he took off a beret, with a long feather in it, and made a low bow. "I hope you're both well."

"I feel fine, thank you," said Hanid.

"I feel fine, too," said Knarf. "Where are you going all dressed up like that, Mr Merlin?"

"Ah, a very good question!" said Mr Merlin. "I'm going to the playground."

Knarf and Hanid both exclaimed in one voice: "Playground! Which playground?"

"Well," said Mr Merlin, "I don't know whether you know the playground I mean. I don't think it's the one you usually go to."

"There isn't any other playground," said Knarf.

"Oh yes, there is," said Mr Merlin. "You just come along with me and I'll show you."

New Playground

Hanid said: "We'd like very much to go to a new playground, Mr Merlin. We're getting tired of the one we always go to."

"Come along, then," said Mr Merlin.

So Knarf and Hanid walked down the street arm-in-arm with their friend Mr Merlin, the Magnificent Magician.

When they came to the end of the street, they turned the corner and walked down another street. And so, they walked on for several more streets, up one and down another until finally they came to a river.

"I've never seen this river before," said Hanid.

Knarf had never seen it either. But Mr Merlin simply smiled and said: "Here, we'll cross to the other side."

A Large Field

So they went across a bridge (which Knarf and Hanid had never seen before) and there on the other side, they came to a large field behind a tall, iron fence. The gate was open and Knarf and Hanid followed Mr Merlin inside.

"I think you're going to like this playground," Mr Merlin said to Knarf and Hanid.

Knarf and Hanid looked around. There were seesaws and slides and swings and sandboxes.

"Let's try the seesaws first," said Mr Merlin.

Knarf and Hanid sat at one end, Mr Merlin sat at the other. It was the most remarkable seesaw that ever was. When they went up, they bumped their heads against a cloud. That's how high it was.

Then they tried the swings. When they swung, they swung higher than the tops of the trees. It was like flying through the air.

Then they tried the slides. The top of the slide was so high that they had to go up by an elevator. It took them half an hour to slide down. It was like sliding down a scenic railway.

Knarf and Hanid swung high above the trees.

Finally they tried the sandboxes. They were so big that they looked like the beach at the ocean. Hanid was sure she could see waves at the other end.

But the best thing about Mr Merlin's playground was that every few minutes, a man came around with a basket filled with popcorn, peppermints, chocolate bars, ice cream cones and apples on the stick—all free!

But the curious thing is this: Later that week, when Knarf and Hanid decided to go to Mr Merlin's wonderful playground again, they couldn't seem to find it. They couldn't even find the river. The whole wonderful playground had just vanished away.

Only a Magnificent Magician like Mr Merlin could ever find it again.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Brazil nuts will slice easily if they're first par-boiled. Cover the shelled nuts with cold water, bring slowly to a boil and simmer 2 to 3 minutes. Drain immediately and slice lengthwise, using a vegetable peeler for paper-thin slices if you wish nut curls.

When ironing coloured clothes which are not fade-proof, put an extra muslin cloth on the ironing board to prevent staining the cover.

Rupert and Rusty—7

Rupert is worried by what he has seen. "Do you think that Rusty may be down that cliff face?" he asks. "It looks very dangerous." "No, he's not there," declares the old gentleman. "He's mischievous, but he's not disobedient. I've told him strictly that he must not make his way to the shore by himself. So I'll search a bit longer. Meanwhile, you'd better walk straight back to the house." He moves off as Rupert turns away under the trees. All at once a loud hiss over his head makes him jump.

ANNE SHARPLEY

The most baffling 135 minutes of my life . . .

I WATCH THE BULLETS MAKE 'HISTORY' AT HAYES

"WHAT'S American football?" I asked in a pre-Royal Tour panic when it was announced that the Queen was going to see a match during her trip to North America.

It couldn't be the same as those glum but splendid wet Saturday afternoons I used to spend watching Third Division North.

Vague impressions of young men with shoulders like Cadillacs and enormous helmets were not going to help much towards an authoritative write-up when the Queen, 50,000 Americans and I, sat down to watch Maryland and North Carolina Universities play each other on October 19.

"Ring up one of the American bases and see if they have a game going on," someone suggested.

They had.

The Greatest

It turned out to be the biggest, the greatest beanz of a football game that America-in-Europe can provide. And I'm still trying to understand why.

Sickeningly aware of how difficult it is to measure up to a great moment if you don't know what it's all about, I was informed after the most puzzled two hours and a quarter of my life—"You have just witnessed Euro-American football history."

I had seen the London Rockets defeated by the Burtonwood Bullets 13—7 at the Sports Stadium in Hayes.

So here, for a small, privately circulated history book is what I think happened.

First thing you need for American football is a supply of hot-dogs. These should float non-stop over and between the heads of the crowd at the rate of two hot-dogs to one head—always mysteriously passing backwards and forwards along the rows.

You need lots of white lines all over the field and lots of little white notices, with numbers on them, to dot about.

Then you need players. About enough for four English soccer matches will do if you throw in all the umpires and attendants.

Dress them in flunkey's breeches, gorilla's shoulders and Martian helmets.

Packed Buses

The teams arrive, shouting and chanting, in very packed buses, and run out on to the field with a high-stepping gait to do exercises. These exercises are the most tiring part of the game.

What are the qualifications for an American football player. "Big and stoopid," said the man on my left. "Fast and intelligent," said the man on my right.

You need no less than *seven* referees and referee-types. They form a sort of third team—the one that actually always wins.

They wear spectacular striped shirts and white breeches, out of the rear pocket of which spills a big red hanky. They are always throwing this red hanky about, and when it hits the ground the playing stops.

They have lots of umpiring devices like whistles as well. But best of all is a contraption which looks like two enormous humbug lollipops, held together by a chain exactly ten yards long.

This device is always being rushed on to the field because the distance of 10 yards is terribly important—and nobody seems able to pace it out or judge the distance without measuring it exactly.

In the grandstand is a band which, when the ball is kicked, gives a drum-roll ending in a drum-crash when the ball lands. This is because the ball so seldom moves at all that the event is worth nothing.

The London Rockets are wearing their home-playing uniform, which is blue and gold. They have another which is different for away matches. Some of the players have their helmets gilded, which is exotic, but a bit upsetting as they look so like brass bed-knobs.

The Burtonwood Bullets have white helmets, red trousers and shirt and 30' pounds weight of padding which gives them the appearance of rather strange crustacea.

There are 66 players on the field but only 22 play the rest are reserves.

London kick off with a ball the size that any member of the two teams could swallow.

Everyone on the field flings himself on to a pile—the same one. The umpires go berserk. "Penalty?" I ask. "Nope, it's a first down."

Kick off again. Everyone throws himself on to a pile again. "Penalty?" I ask. "Nope. Second down."

"Why do they keep huddling together?" I ask. The teams keep getting into clusters and bending down, staring at the grass with the absorption of a group studying a rare botanical specimen.

"They're planning what to do next." I am told.

Somebody in one of the clusters has had an idea. A boy from Burtonwood decides to give up this flinging on a pile and do some running. He runs 20 yards and it is, it seems, a touch-down.

Most Unusual

"That's most unusual," says everyone. And it is. It didn't happen again for ages. They just kept flinging themselves into piles with the fervour of Hindu widows committing suttee instead.

"It's a very artificial game," said the man on my left. "You couldn't pay me to see it," he added, watching it just the same.

"Why do they kick the ball to the opposing team?" I asked, as a rather puzzling feature of the game became clear to me.

"In American football you gotta."

The ambulance had the biggest success of the first half. A player was injured and to cheers of "Bring out the meat-wagon," the ambulance roared round the track.

But after the interval the crowd, hot-dog maddened, began to scream for more than two teams just taking headers into heaps.

"Let's Go Rockets, Go, Rockets, GO, GO, GO."

A swaying line of teenage maidens, in swingy skirts with white frillies underneath, cheer-led us in shrill unison with "Lean to the Left, Lean to the Right, Stand Up, Sit Down, FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT."

Someone started a fight in the back of the grandstand. But that was not what the cheer-leaders meant, presumably.

"They haven't been beaten since 1952." "This is history, The Rockets just can't be beaten."

Teenagers in Tyrolean hats, earrings, jeans and chunkly socks were going off like steam whistles.

Suburban Lawn

At least three-quarters of the field had not been so much as stepped on—it had all gone on in an area the size of a suburban lawn.

In a tight, jubilant pack Burtonwood ran off the field, their coach carried on their shoulders—the winners.

The London Rockets, with dramatic dejection, trailed from the game—the losers. Declamation and woe broke out in the grandstand. "I gotta get drunk tonight," said a pretty young woman in tones of Greek tragedy.

"Like an an alien religion," said a snooty European voice.

It all seemed far, far away from the Third Division North on glum but splendid wet Saturday afternoons....

—(London Express Service).

Sports Diary

TODAY

Meeting

HKFA Council Meeting at Sports Road, 5.45 p.m.

Soccer

1st Division: Club v RAF (Club), Army v Kwong Wah (B3) both matches at 5.30 p.m.

Reserve Division: South China v CAA (CH); KMB v Sing Tao (Navy) both matches at 5.30 p.m.

Golf

Interport: Golf with Singapore at Fanling.

Ladies' Silver and Bronze Divisions, Fanling.

TOMORROW

Soccer

1st Division: S. China v CAA (C. Hill); KMB v Sing Tao (B. St.) both matches start at 5.30 p.m.

Reserve Division: Kitchee v Police (Navy) at 5.30 p.m.

Golf

Interport: Combined Services v Singapore at Fanling.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

FERD'NAND

By Mik

NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller

JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins

CHINA MAIL

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Salisbury Road.
Telephone: 64141.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that an Interim Dividend of Two Dollars and Fifty Cents per share on the Company's Issued Capital has been declared in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1957.

Dividend Warrants will be available for collection at the Registered Office of the Company, 144-148, Des Voeux Road, Central, 1st Floor, Hong Kong, or will be dealt with in accordance with standing instructions, on and after Tuesday, 22nd October, 1957.

Notice is also given that the Share Register of the Company will be closed from Saturday, the 12th October, 1957 to Saturday, the 19th October, 1957, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board
LAU CHAN KWOK
Managing Director.

Hongkong, 19th Sept., 1957.

AUSTRALIAN NEWSLETTER

Bushfires Destroy 16 Homes Near Sydney

Sydney, By Airmail.

In one hot, blistery day last week when dry westerly gusts reached 70 mph, fierce fires tore through the bushlands on either side of Sydney and in a few hours destroyed 16 homes and other property worth scores of thousands of pounds.

Hardest hit was a holiday area, Gray's Point, within 20 miles of the city, where 12 homes went up in flames.

With the State facing its worst drought for 15 years, with the grass outback tinder dry and the bushland lush after so many good seasons, the fire danger throughout NSW, Queensland and Victoria this year is said to be the greatest ever.

Already the State Government has clamped down on fires of any type outdoors. There can be no burning of rubbish in the backyard, no bush picnics and boiling the billy, no barbecues—just no fires of any sort.

The continued dry weather—there have been no really soaking rains for nearly 12 months—has just about killed the wheat crop and it is almost certain that NSW this year will be an importer of wheat instead of a healthy exporter.

Other crops are also suffering. The prices of greens are high and graziers say the wool yield is likely to fall alarmingly.

Airlines Fight

One of the greatest business battles in this country for many years is for control of the privately owned inter-state airlines.

Young Reg Ansett who, a fortnight ago, signed cheques totalling £3,300,000 to take over Australian National Airways as a going concern, turned around a few days later and scooped up shares in Butler Air Transport to increase his total holdings to 60 per cent.

He took over some shares when he bought out ANA, for that company already had considerable interest in Butler. Then he went on the open market and bought the rest to give him a controlling interest.

It has now been announced that another company, unnamed, has made the most generous offer to Butler shareholders to take over complete control of the airline.

It would seem, however, that Mr Reg Ansett was backing a certain winner when he said the unnamed company's gesture was "sheer nonsense."

Not Selling

"It would be impossible for any company to take over complete control of Butler," he said, "because we already own 60 per cent of the shares and we are not selling."

As the managing director of Ansett Airlines and ANA and with a nice fat finger in Butler Airways, Mr Reg Ansett already controls Australia's greatest commercial transport organisation.

Not only does it comprise air routes covering the continent but includes a string of hotels and the very well-known Pioneer Tourist Service which is now running to all parts of Australia, even through the Centre to Alice Springs and on to Darwin.

Butler Airways is mainly concerned with State air-routes but it does run to Queensland and NSW. It has an up-to-date fleet of Viscount, Elizabethan and Douglas DC3s.

As the Russian satellite flew over Sydney one day last week someone in the crowd said: "Pretty good, aren't they? Reg Ansett has ordered six of them."

Which is nonsense of course, but this indicates that Mr Ansett is very much indeed on the air transport ball.

Scooterised

Because of the number of parking meters in Sydney streets the City Council is to provide its meter mechanic with a motor scooter.

There are slightly more than 100 meters at present in operation and they have proved so bountiful to Council finances that it is planned to instal another 500 in streets on the fringe of the city.

Apparently these parking meters are fairly temperamental for the mechanic has to repair an average of six a day and wherever possible it is an on-the-spot job.

Good TV Progress

At the end of its first 12 months operation in Sydney and Melbourne commercial television had made remarkable progress, according to a report by the Australian Broadcasting Control Board.

The Board said that a high standard of technical efficiency had been reached; that the hours of viewing were steadily increasing and that there was a substantial increase each month in the number of receivers in the hands of the public.

However, the Board was not satisfied that all family and children's programmes complied fully with the spirit of special conditions which applied to them or that licensees or advertisers had always given consideration to the object of perusing matter that was suitable for viewing by people of all ages and would not produce undesirable effects on children.

200,000 Sets

It is estimated that there are now nearly 200,000 TV sets in use in NSW and Victoria and that generally the type of picture being received is excellent.

What the Broadcasting Board report did not reveal, however, is that the commercial TV stations are spending money quicker than one can spend francs in a Paris nightclub; that advertisers are extremely wary of the TV medium—not that they do not believe in it but the higher cost of both production and viewing for the relatively small number of viewers makes it a catch-as-catch-can proposition and that at least one TV commercial licensee is scratching around for some ready cash. Twenty-one pounds for 10 seconds of commercial time is still big money for Australian advertisers.

Advertising circles do concede, however, that if the TV people can hold on, it is only a question of time before they will be lining up in a queue waiting for viewing time.

Exporting Snakes

A Queensland man has started an export business in which he has no competition, and yet is one of Australia's fastest growing dollar industries.

It is the export of deadly Australian snakes to America.

The exporter is Henry Hohnke who says there seems to be a bit of a craze for Australian snakes among Americans.

He returned this week from a hunting expedition with some of the world's most deadly snakes which are needed for export to America next week.

His bag included taipans, death adders, deadly brown snakes, and huge but harmless carpet snakes.

Henry Hohnke says his biggest customer is Mr S. V. Ernest who owns a reptile and alligator farm near Los Angeles.

Cheap Labour!

One of the strangest pieces of news to come our way for many a long day is that an American manufacturing company hopes to take advantage of cheap Australian labour costs and ship to America machinery parts it makes in Australia.

Dyke, the 53-year-old Vice-President of the Oliver Corporation, of America, which makes earth-moving and agricultural equipment said this in Sydney this week after a visit to New Zealand.

Mr Dyke, who incidentally is a New Zealander, said he believed it would be possible to make certain parts of his company's equipment in this country and ship it to America at a cheaper rate than could be achieved over there.

We have become so used to people complaining about the high labour costs in Australia that Mr Dyke's announcement comes as an unusual tribute by an American.

MAIL Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O., Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22
By Air
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Canada, U.S.A., 6 p.m.
Hawaii, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Japan, Canada, 5 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23
By Air
Formosa, Okinawa, Korea, Japan, 11 a.m.
Philippines, North Borneo, Noon.
Indo-China, France, 2 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 3 p.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Korea, 8 p.m.
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Malaya, 11 a.m.
Iraq (Persian Gulf, Parcels direct), 11 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Thailand, 3 p.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, India, Aden, Middle East, Great Britain & Europe, Parcels & Reg. 6 p.m.; Letters & Packets 9 a.m. 24/10/57.
Macao, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24
By Air
Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kunming, Hoihow, 7 a.m.
Thailand, 9 a.m.
Japan, 10 a.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 1 p.m.
Philippines, 1 p.m.
Indo-China, France, 2 p.m.
U.S.A., 6 p.m.
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, India, Aden, Egypt, Great Britain & Europe, 9 a.m.
Mauritius, E. East Africa, S. Africa, (N. & S. Rhodesia, & Nyassaland, Parcels via L. Marques), 11 a.m.
Indonesia, 11 a.m.
Burma, Noon.
India, Noon.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Italy, France (Netherlands & Germany Parcels direct), 2 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Brazil (Agentine, Parcels direct), Noon.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Formosa, 8 a.m.
Burma, India, 10 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27
By Surface
Macao, 1 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Aden, Middle East, Italy, (Mahe via Bombay & P. India parcels via Karachi), 5 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

JAPAN BUILDING GIANT SUBMARINE?

London, Oct. 22.

A statement by Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery, deputy Supreme Commander of NATO, that the Japanese were building a 65,000-ton freight-carrying submarine was dismissed in naval circles here today.

An Admiralty official said the Admiralty had no knowledge of such a project.

Viscount Montgomery made the statement during a speech at a Trafalgar Day lunch yesterday commemorating the anniversary of Britain's great naval victory of 1805.

Today, the Naval correspondent of the Daily Telegraph said that unconfirmed reports earlier this year stated that the Japanese were considering "a submersible of possibly 30,000 tons."

MANY PROBLEMS

The newspaper quoted Viscount Montgomery as confirming the displacement figure of 65,000 tons. "I can give you no other details at the moment," he told the newspaper. "I can't tell you where I got the information from, but it is true."

The Naval correspondent said "A submersible of 65,000 tons would present many problems of navigation and docking.

"But Japan has several deep-water berths which might be used by such a huge boat.

"The Japanese have built huge ships before. During the war two 65,000-ton battleships, each with a main armament of nine 18-inch guns, served as the Japanese flagships in the Battles of Midway and Leyte Gulf. A third 65,000-ton battleship was damaged by bombing while in harbour."—Reuter.

SLIGHT RISE IN TRAMP FREIGHTS

London.

Tramp shipping freight rates have shown a slight but encouraging improvement recently.

The recovery has been stimulated by a seasonal increase in Europe's winter demand for American grain. Rates for heavy grain from the United States Gulf to the Continent of Europe have risen over the past month from 41s. to about 55s. per ton.

Shipping circles are unwilling to forecast how far this improvement in freight rates may go, as the increased demand for tramp ships so far has been concentrated largely on one trade.

They point out, however, that with so many pre-war and wartime-built vessels laid up, any increase in demand for the fewer ships now available will have a correspondingly greater effect on the world level of freight rates.

It is estimated that 240,000 gross tons of British shipping, for instance, is now laid up as a result of depressed rates.

QUIET OIL TANKER MARKET

London.

The oil tanker charter market was, if possible, even quieter last week than in recent weeks, and rates remained at depressed levels.

One broker commented: "We cannot expect any change in these rates until the balance is affected, which would either mean more charterers in the market or fewer tankers available as a result of the continual process of laying-up."

Transatlantic crude oil rates declined by about 5 points during the week to British Ministry of Transport Scale minus 50 per cent from Caribbeans to Britain or the Continent of Europe. This was due to the fact there was scarcely any inquiry and owners had to accept two cargoes of heavy crude oil at the lower rate.

SHIPS LOST

London.

The world merchant fleet lost 103 ships, aggregating 248,595 gross tons, during 1956 as a result of casualty. Lloyd's Register of Shipping statistics show that this represented 0.24 per cent of total world tonnage.

British casualties were 74 vessels, totalling 32,720 tons, or 0.17 per cent of the U.K. fleet.

LONDON'S BIGGEST BOAT SHOW

London.

Show records have been broken three months ahead by the Fourth National Boat Show, which will open on New Year's Day in London for an 11-day run.

Nearly 250 exhibitors have booked space, making it the biggest exhibition of its kind ever held.

The three floors of Empire Hall, Olympia, will be filled with more than 200 different craft. There will be ocean racers, cruisers, high-speed power boats, sailing dinghies, hydroplanes, water scooters, floating caravans—a whole vast indoor harbour to bring sunshine into the winter.

Total Area

Total area of the exhibition, which is presented by the Daily Express and the Ship and Boat Builders' National Federation, will be nearly 200,000 square feet.

One ocean racer on view will be a new British challenger for next summer's Bermuda Race, one of the three great ocean races of the world.

The newest glass-fibre lifeboats for liners will make their appearance, so will the newest designs in power and sailing craft, such as the twin-hulled catamarans and hydrogoil vessels that lift right out of the water at speed.

For Women

The influence of women's tastes will be seen in eye-catching displays of the latest fashions and accessories for beachwear and holidays afloat.

Motor cruisers nearly 50 feet long will be among the biggest boats in the show, compared with dinghies small enough for a car roof.

Prices will range from £10 to £10,000.

INCREASE IN US MERCHANT FLEET

Washington, Oct. 21.

The United States' privately-owned merchant fleet was increased by 25,000 deadweight tons last month but had a net reduction of one vessel, the American Merchant Marine Institute reported today.

One "Super" tanker of 29,000 deadweight tons and one special purpose (Wine) tanker of 15,300 deadweight tons were added to the U.S. fleet in September from new construction.

But three vessels of less tonnage were removed from U.S. flag documentation by sales or transfer abroad during the period.

The U.S. flag privately-owned fleet (Ocean-going vessels of 1,000 gross tons and over) totalled 1,013 vessels on October 1. They totalled 13,019,304 deadweight tons. — United Press.

NEW JETTY FOR TANKERS

London.

Tankers will be able to discharge up to 6,000 tons of crude oil an hour from British Petroleum Company's new jetty at Finnart, Loch Long, when it is completed by autumn next year.

The new jetty is about half a mile south of B.P.'s present tanker jetty and installation. It will have two shore arms, each 160 feet long (60 metres). One arm will carry a road-way for light vehicles and the other a pipe-track.

Oil discharge will be through two 24-inch (70cms) pipelines connecting with four new storage tanks now being built and the four tanks at the present installation. All the tanks will be linked through the existing pumphouse to the 57-mile (92kms) pipeline to B.P.'s Grangemouth refinery on the Firth of Forth.

THE ASTURIAS

Southampton.

The 31-year-old liner Asturias, of 22,445 gross tons, which has carried thousands of emigrants and servicemen, is to be broken up at Fasland on the Clyde. She ran formerly a luxury service between Southampton and South America.

Another Southampton troopship, the 9,523 gross tons Empire Ken, built in 1926 as the German liner Ubena, will soon be broken up.

Shriners' Donation To Cripples' Hospital

Shriners from the Afifi Temple Divan of Tacoma, Washington, who are on a visit here, donated a bed to the Sandy Bay Crippled Children's Convalescene Hospital this morning.

On behalf of the visitors, Mr Chester A. Hogan, Illustrious Potentate of the Afifi Shrine Temple, handed a cheque that will pay for the expenses for the coming year for a handicapped child who will occupy the new bed.

The cheque was presented to Mr George Jones, President of the Dragon Oasis Shrine Club in Hongkong and Mr Jones, in turn, handed the cheque to the President of the Relief Society, Mr Chan Nam-cheong.

Mr Hogan headed a group of 41 Shriners who toured the hospital. They visited 54 young handicapped children and showed particular interest in four-year-old Fan Kau-choi, the boy who is suffering from tuberculosis of the spine and who is occupying the bed donated by the Dragon Oasis Shrine Club of Hongkong.

The picture above shows one of the young patients wearing a Shriner's Fez during today's visit.

RADIO Hongkong

5.30 p.m., Over the Hills and Far Away, introduced by Mavis; 5.45, Listen to a Lullaby—A selection music for Lullaby Time;" 6, Time Signal. Programme Summary; 6.02, La Demi Heure Francaise—presentation de M. Lavemanne; 6.30, Chicago Symphony Orchestra; 7, Golden Age of Popular Song—"You're the Top;" 7.22, "Continental Capers;" 7.56, Weather Report; 8, Tune Signal. The News; 8.09, Commentary; 8.15, Rosemary Clooney and The Hi-Lo's; 8.45, The Music Makers—String Quartet in D major, K. V. 499 (Mozart); 9.15, Letter from America by Alistair Cooke; 9.30, The Worshipper at Noon—The life story of Franz Liszt; 10.30, Lawrence Welk and his Champagne Music; 10.58, Weather Report; 11, Time Signal. Radio Newsreel; 11.15, Goodnight Music; 11.30, Close Down.

REDIFFUSION

3 p.m., Musical Matinee; 3.30, Partners In Song—The Four Aces; 4, Teatime Rendezvous; 4.30, Vocally Yours — Teresa Brewer and Tony Bennett; 5, Children's Corner — Presented by Auntie Ray; 5.30, Progressive Jazz; 6, Torch Tones — Sidney Torch and his Orchestra; 6.20, Birthday Mailbag; 6.30, Band Call — Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra and Perry Como; 7, Personality Parade—Jo Stafford; 7.15, Evening Serenade; 7.45, The Story of Jane Armitage; 8, B.B.C. News; 8.09, Weather Report, Announcements and Interlude; 8.15, Strange Tales of Eastermain—Episode 33; 8.30, Yours Sincerely — Vera Lynn Sings; 9, John Diamond, Adventurer—Episode 25: "The Long Road"; 9.30, Moods In Music; 10, Music Hall Varieties; 10.30, The Hour of Charm — Phil Spitalny and his All-Girl Orchestra; 11, Date With Dreamland; 11.30, Prelude To Midnight; 12 Midnight, God Save The Queen. Close Down.

TELEVISION

5 p.m., Children's Hour—Cartoons; 5.15, Children's Film Festival; 6, Close Down.
7 p.m., English Television Talent Time—All Winners Final; 7.45, Newsreel of World and Colony Events; 8, Cantonese Film:—"The Sisters-in-law" (Part 2); 8.30, Lilli Palmer; 8.45, Calling Card (Chinese); 9, "Mr District Attorney" starring David Brian; 9.30, Evening Feature Film:—"Private Information" 10.50 Late Night Final:—News Headlines, Weather Report and Announcements; Close Down.

Maintenance Case

(Continued from Page 1)

"Her case really is, as I see it, that she was forced to leave her home not because of her husband's attitude towards her but because of her father-in-law's outrageous behaviour.

"I think the father-in-law during the conversation he had with the complainant on the 11th day after the marriage, no doubt forgot himself and probably became rude and overbearing and, although he was under the stress of emotion caused by the sudden disclosures concerning his daughter-in-law's past, I do not think that the complainant was justified in leaving her home having wrongly, in my opinion, assumed that he was about to strike her.

"Before I can make this order the Court must be satisfied that the defendant himself behaved so badly towards his wife that she could not be expected to remain with him and that she left because he intended to put an end to cohabitation.

"Having now considered all the evidence given in this case very carefully I have arrived at the conclusion that the complainant is not entitled to relief in the light of decided cases and the provisions of this Ordinance.

"Intention is often a matter of inference to be drawn from the spouse's conduct generally and, in this case, I am satisfied that the husband most definitely intended his wife to remain with him.

"I am not prepared to accept the inference which the solicitor for the complainant has asked me to infer that the husband will deliberately go to any length to avoid carrying out his obligations.

"I decline, therefore, to make any order in this case and the application is dismissed."

Stole Radio

Prison terms totalling three months and 24 days were passed on Chan Ming, 54, unemployed, by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central Magistracy this morning for stealing a radio from Tsang Fook Piano Company, failing to report to the Police while being under Police supervision and failing to report a change of address.

China Mail Entertainment Guide

WHAT'S ON TONIGHT

HOOVER & LIBERTY: "The Vintage": Two brothers who were fugitives from the law, descend on a vineyard at vintage time. Pier Angeli, Mel Ferrer, John Kerr, and Michele Morgan.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA: "The Garment Jungle": About the rackets in New York garment centre.

KING'S & PRINCESS: "War and Peace": Tolstoy's masterpiece brought to the screen. Audrey Hepburn, Henry Fonda, and Mel Ferrer.

ROXY & BROADWAY: "The Deerslayer": James Fenimore Cooper's Adventure classic presented in CinemaScope and Colour De Luxe. Lex Barker, Rita Moreno, Forrest Tucker, and Cathy O'Donnell.

STAR & METROPOLE: "City Beneath the Sea": starring Robert Ryan, Maia Powers, Anthony Quinn and Suzan Ball.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

Britain's Sudden Change Of Attitude Breaks Deadlock

THE FREE TRADE AREA PLAN

The End Of Imperial Preference?

London, Oct. 21.

After several months of deadlock, the European Free Trade Area plan is once again on the move. A special ministerial committee is to start work at once on a treaty to take effect simultaneously and run parallel with the treaty of Rome, which provides for a common market comprising France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Italy and Luxembourg by the beginning of 1959.

What broke the deadlock was an important, though hardly unexpected change of attitude by Britain.

Previously, the British Government had insisted that agricultural products should, on no account, be included in the free trade area. This was to protect British agriculture against an influx of cheap Continental farm products and also to preserve the remaining element of preference enjoyed in the British market by Commonwealth agricultural producers.

British ministers gave the impression that although they would put up with a lot to see a free trade area working parallel with the common market, the inclusion of agricultural products was one price they would not pay.

Repetition

By constant repetition of this formula they succeeded in quenching most — but not all — British political opposition to the plan.

What made them change their mind was the realisation that European countries simply would not play on these terms. Opposition within the common market to the appendage of a free trade area was already strong on other grounds.

The six members of "Little Europe," see the common market not merely as a means to maximise trade among themselves, but as a further step along the road to the political federalisation of Europe with supra-national organisations taking more and more responsibility out of the hands of individual governments.

They suspected—rightly—that Britain, the prime mover in the free trade area plan was more interested in taking out an insurance policy against a loss of overseas trade when the common market began to function than in furthering European integration.

The British attitude was resented too by the countries who would form the free trade area. To most of these agricultural products account for an important part of their export trade.

Exclude farm produce from the free trade area and what is left? For countries like Denmark, very little indeed.

So, the British delegation went to the Paris talks knowing that this was probably their last chance to breathe life into the free trade area plan. And they did this most effectively by dropping their previous objection to the inclusion of agricultural products.

Mystery

Exactly what the new British plan is, is something of a mystery.

The new policy was presented in terms that appeared to be deliberately vague. But what it seems to come down to is this: Britain will not object to other members of the free trade area making special arrangements for the marketing of agricultural products, so long as she is not expected to join them.

This does not mean that Britain is not willing to talk about agricultural trade or will not, at some future date, associate with the marketing arrangements made by the others. But it does mean that Britain reserves the final right to protect her own agriculture by any means necessary.

This reservation was retained in three ways:

The United Kingdom gave advance notice that it would retain agricultural tariffs;

It insisted that it must be granted a waiver from any provision made by the others for a gradual abolition of tariffs on agricultural products;

And it wanted decisions on free trade area matters to be made as in O.E.E.C. on the basis of unanimity.

Important

But the important thing is that Britain has abandoned her previous stand on agriculture. And this makes the free trade area a practical economical and political proposition.

There is, however, still a long way to go. At home, the British Government has to convince the Parliament and industry that their change of attitude on agriculture does not mean that they are prepared to sacrifice the "safeguards" that are the conditions on which support has been gained for the plan.

Then there is the problem of the colonies. Their exports to Europe must suffer by the inclusion of French and other "Little European" overseas dependent territories in the common market.

Exports from these territories will thus have a valuable tariff advantage over British colonial exports in this important and expanding market for food and raw materials.

Even the common market is not yet in the clear. Its likely effect on the overseas trade of non-European countries will be the chief topic at the current meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade signatories.

GATT allows the establishment of customs unions or common markets, but it sets its face firmly against the creation of new preferential tariffs. There is no GATT objection in principle to a European common market, but many signatories to the agreement are expected to take strong exception to some of its provisions.

Objection

One objection is that by granting each other's overseas dependent territories duty free entry into the common market, but allowing them to retain their own tariffs to protect developing industries the six members of "Little Europe" have in effect set up a new area of preferential trading in violation of the principles of GATT.

But what we are seeing now — in the all but accomplished fact of a European common market, the negotiations for a European free trade area, and the debate on these developments in GATT — are the first difficult stages of a complete recasting of international trade patterns.

The trend is towards regional free trade.

After Europe, the idea might be applied to the Commonwealth. This, at least, is the belief of New Zealand's director-general of Agriculture, Edward Fawcett.

He predicted last week that next year's Commonwealth trade talks in Ottawa would result in the replacement of Imperial preference by a full-scale Empire common market. —Express Service.

N.Y. STOCK MARKET

Heaviest Selling In Two Years Mark New Lows

New York, Oct. 21.

The stock market took it on the chin today as the heaviest selling in more than two years dropped stocks to their lowest levels since late 1954.

Volume picked up sharply on the selloff, which wiped another $5,540,000,000 from market values and brought the total loss since July 12—when the year's high has hit—to around $47 billion.

Individual losses in the list ran to more than 6 points in Du Pont and almost 4 points in American Telephone, a high-grade investment stocks.

Losses of 3, 4 and 5 points were numerous in the list. High-speed reporting tickets ran late five times during the session, to boost volume to 4,670,000 shares—the most since September 27, 1955. Sales on Friday came to 2,670,000 shares.

Middle East

The tense Middle East situation, another decline in steel production at a time it should be rising, a number in steel production reports and predictions of a possible mild downturn in business next year all helped to dampen sentiment. Tax selling also was a factor.

At the close, the Dow-Jones averages showed industrials down 10.77 points to 423.00 — lowest since May 25, 1955; rails off 6.28 to 107.05—lowest since June 26, 1955, and 65 stocks down 4.65 to 143.61—lowest since December 14, 1954.

The session was the broadest of the year, with 1,247 issues traded. Of these, 1,080 declined, 251 advanced and 116 held unchanged. A total of 638 stocks made new lows for the year and 3 hit new highs.

NY Stock Exchange bond volume was $7,590,000.

American Stock Exchange volume was $1,750,000 shares.

Dow-Jones closing averages were: 30 industrials: 423.05; 20 rails: 107.05; 15 utilities: 62.88; 65 stocks: 143.61; 40 bonds: 84.87; Comm. future price index: 150.62.

Closing Prices

Alden Inc. Acy.	$ 15¼
Allied Chemicals	73¾
Allied Mills Inc.	27⅛
Allis Chalmers	25
Am. Brake Shoe	39
American Airline	14⅛
American Cable & Radio Corp.	3¾
American Cyanamid Co.	38⅛
Am. Gas & Electric	30⅜
Am. Mach. & Fdry.	29¼
American Motel	19⅛
American Smelting	40¼
Am. Sugar Ref.	24
American Tel & Tel	163⅝
American Tob. "B"	71⅛
Anaconda Copper	40⅝
Armco Steel	44⅛
Armour	10¾
Atlas Cons. Mining	11⅛
Baldwin-Lima-Ham.	9⅝
Baltimore & Ohio	32⅝
Beneficial Finance	16¾
Bendix Aviation Corp	43
Benguet Cons.	1⅛
Bethlehem Steel	37
Boeing Airplane	30⅜
Borden (The) Co.	56½
Burroughs Add Machine	30⅛
Campbell Soup Co.	33⅛
Canadian Pacific R.	25¼
Case (J.I.) Co.	13⅛
Cat. Tractor	67¼
Celanese Corp.	11
C.I.T. Financial Corp.	41⅝
Chrysler Motors	64
Cities Peabody	41¼
Colgate-Palmolive Co.	44¼
Colombian Carbon Co.	34⅛
Commercial Credit	43½
Consolidated Edison	41⅛
Continental Oil of Del.	47½
Crown Zellerbach	43⅛
Cuban Amer. Sugar	18
Diamond Match Co.	30
Douglas Aircraft	58⅝
Dow Chemicals	49⅝
Dupont de Nemours	100¾
Eastern Airline	28⅛
Eastman Kodak	97⅛
El Paso National Gas	25⅛
Firestone Tyre & Rubber	82½
Ford Motor	44⅛
General Electric	87½
General Foods	50½
General Motors	45⅛
Getty Oil	20¼
Gilden Co.	29⅛
Goodrich (B.F.) Co.	38
Goodyear Tyre	77
Gulf Oil	107
Homestake Mining Co.	30⅛
Ingersoll-Rand	80⅛
Inland Steel Co.	67⅝
Interchemical Corp.	39½
Int'l Business Machines	275
Int'l Harvester	30⅛
International Nickel	87⅛
Int'l Tel & Tel.	24⅛
Kansas G. Power & Light	35
Kennecott Copper	89⅝
Liggett Meyers Tob. Co.	64⅛
Lockheed Aircraft	28⅝
Loews Incorp.	12¼
Lone Star Cement Co.	20⅛
Lowenstein & Sons	12½
McDonnell Aircraft (Am. Stock Exge.)	19½
Mission Development	7¾
Monsanto Chemical Co.	30¼
Montgomery Ward	30⅞
National Cash Reg. "A"	55¼
National Dairy Prod.	36⅛
National Lead	89⅝
National Steel Corp.	57⅛
New York Central	17⅛
Norfolk & Western Ry.	59¼
Otis Elevators	40
Owen-Illinois Glass	51¼
Pacific Gas & Elec.	43
Pan American Airways	12⅛
Paramount Pictures	29¼
Parke Davis Co.	53¾
Penny J. C. Co.	77⅛
Philip Morris	38⅛
Procter & Gamble Co.	49
Publicker Industries	9⅛
Pure Oil	31⅛
Radio Corporation	57½
Republic Steel	41¼
Sears, Roebuck & Co.	24¾
Saint Reg. Paper	24⅛
Sinclair Oil	40¾
Socony Mobiloil	47⅛
Solar Aircraft	17¼
South Puerto Rico Sugar	25
Southern Co. (The)	21¼
Southern National Gas	23
Standard Brands	38
Standard Oil of Cal.	46
Standard Oil of Ind.	38⅛
Standard Oil of N.J.	61¼
Steep Rock (Toronto Exge.)	10
Stokely-Van Camp.	11¾
Studebaker-Packard Corp.	3⅛
Swift & Co.	20⅛
Texas Co.	69
Title Water Assn. Oil	34⅛
Time Inc.	54¾
Twenty Century Fox Film	10⅝
Union Carbide	109
Union Pacific Railway	24
United Aircraft	53¼
United Gas Corp.	25⅛
U.S. Foil "B"	21⅛
U.S. Gypsum	57⅛
U.S. Rubber	34¾
U.S. Smelting	39
U.S. Steel	52
Warner Bros.	20
Westinghouse Electric	53
Western Union Tel. Co.	15
West Va. Pulp & Paper	35¼
Woolworth	40

—United Press.

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET

New York, Oct. 21.

Unfavourable crop news and limited hedge selling combined today to put cotton futures on a moderate upgrade.

Profit-taking at the close shaved part of the gain but the list still close net 8 to 25 points higher. Opening prices were up 2 to 22 points. New Orleans closed up 9 to 25 points.

Stock market weakness and easiness was overshadowed by indications that the cotton crop has lost considerable ground over the past month.

Recent widespread rains over growing areas are said to have lowered the grade of open cotton and caused some quantitative damage.

DEMAND

Meanwhile, leading spot markets reported an increased demand for high grade cotton as mills became increasingly uneasy over lateness of the crop and tightness in high grade cotton supplies.

The certificated stock rose sharply this week, moving up to 8,120 bales, or 2,757 bales more than the previous posting a year ago.

Month	Volume	Open interest
Dec.	8,600	200,600
Mar.	11,600	211,100
May	6,300	212,900
July	4,400	117,400
Oct.	6,000	104,200
Dec.	2,500	36,200
Mar.	600	5,100
Total	40,000	952,500 bales.

—United Press.

NEW YORK COTTON PRICES

New York, Oct. 21.

Prices of cotton futures closed today as follows:

Spot: 33.23; Dec: 34.03; Mar: 34.79; May: 34.93; July: 34.52; Oct: 33.65; Dec: 33.61; Mar: 33.62.—United Press.

NEW ORLEANS PRICES

New Orleans, Oct. 21.

Prices of cotton futures closed today as follows:

Spot: 33.00n; Dec: 34.00; Mar: 34.61; May: 34.83; July: 34.54; Oct: 33.00-67; Dec: 33.61; Mar: 33.61.—United Press.

LIVERPOOL PRICES

Liverpool, Oct. 21.

Cotton future closings, in pence per lb. were as follows:

Old contract: Oct/Nov: 25.06; Dec/Jan: 25.25; Mar/Apr: 25.75; May/June: 25.98; July/Aug: 26.17.

New contract: Oct/Nov: 26.01; Dec/Jan: 26.15; Mar/Apr: 26.45; May/June: 26.57; July/Aug: 26.67.—United Press.

SAO PAULO PRICES

Sao Paulo, Oct. 21.

Cotton future closings, in cruzeiros per kilo were as follows:

Mar: 39.60; May: 40.20; July: 40.30; Oct: 40.40.

In the United States, the average price of cotton (one-inch) at 14 designated spot markets was 33.85 cents.

Total sales at these markets were 77,072 bales.—United Press.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

Our Own Correspondent

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to approximately $138,000. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

Shares	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
BANKS			
HK Bank	045	25	@ 0.46
INSURANCES			
Union	66	250	@ 67
Lombard	52½		
SHIPPING			
Wheelock	0.95		
DOCKS, ETC.			
K. Wharf	122		
Provident (O)	11½		
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	14.00	14.70	
HK Land	33½	34	700 @ 33¾
RUBBER			
Aunalg.	1.50	1.525	
Trust	1.20	0.275	
UTILITIES			
Tram	23.10		
Yaumati	69½		62 @ 69
C. Light (O)	18.20	19.00	500 @ 18.00
			1500 @ 18.40
Electric	27.70		500 @ 27½
			100 @ 27½
			43 @ 27½
Macao E.	10.40		
Telephone	20.70	27.10	
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement	20		
Rope	14.00		
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy	10	10.10	600 @ 10
Watson	13	13.20	
COTTONS			
Textiles	4.36		2000 @ 4.36
INVESTMENTS			
Yangtsze	6.45		

New York Sugar Market

New York Oct. 21.

World No. 4 sugar futures closed today 1 point lower to 1 point higher with sales of 61 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed unchanged to 1 point higher with sales of 34 contracts.

Contract No. 4 (world): Jan: 3.90; Mar: 3.60; May: 3.67; July: 3.68; Sept: 3.60; Oct: 3.40; Mar: 3.40; Spot (cents per lb. fob Cuba): 3.95.

Open interest: 5,040 contracts.

Contract No. 6 (domestic): Nov: 5.62; Mar: 5.47; May: 5.52; July: 5.60; Sept: 5.61; Nov: 5.61; Spot (cents per lb. cif NY ex-duty): 5.80

Open interest: 635 contracts.—United Press.

New York Foreign Exchange

New York, Oct. 21.

Closing rates were:

Canada: 1.03-13/16; England official: 2.80-3/16; 30-days: 2.79¾; 90-days: 2.77-13/16; Australia: 2.24¼; New Zealand: 2.19-5/16; South Africa: 2.80¾; Belgium: .0199-5/16; Pakistan: .2100; Others unchanged.—United Press.

LONDON EXCHANGE

London, Oct. 21.

Closing rates were:

New York: 2.80¼-2.80-5/16; Montreal: 2.99-15/16-3.00; Amsterdam: 10.62½-10.62½; Brussels: 140.17½-140.22½; Frankfurt: 11.78¾-11.78⅞; Paris: 1183½-1183¾; Stockholm: 14.48½-14.48¾; Vienna: 72.84-72.85; Zurich: 12.27¼-12.27½; Others unchanged.—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—

U.S. dollar (per $1)	5.89
Sterling notes (per £1)	16.48
Australian notes (per £1)	12.20
Indonesian rupiah (per 100)	13.15
Siam tical (per 100)	27.20
Singapore (Straits)	1.91

Agreed Merchant Rates

The Exchange Banks' Association announced today.:

Swiss Francs Maximum Selling 75¾; West German Deutschemarks 72⅝; Belgian Francs 859.

New York Rubber Market

New York, Oct. 21.

Rex rubber futures today closed 60 to 66 points lower with sales of 96 contracts.

Nov: 28.96; Jan: 29.06; Mar: 29.10; May: 29.00; July: 28.92; Sept: 28.79; Nov: 28.99.

Standard contract closed 60 to 66 points lower with no sales reported.

Nov: 28.95; Jan: 29.00; Mar: 29.00; May: 28.90; July: 28.80; Sept: 28.69.—United Press.

SINGAPORE MARKET

Singapore, Oct. 21.

The market opened lower on overseas advices and reports of a possibility releasing part of stockpile.

Future closings:

No. 1 rubber per lb. Nov.	84¾-85½
Dec.	unquoted
No. 2 rubber per lb. Nov.	82-82½
No. 3 " "	80½-81
No. 4 " "	77½-78½
Spot rubber unbaled	84¼-84¾
Blanket crepe	74-76
No. 1 pale crepe	90-92

—United Press.

LONDON MARKET

London, Oct. 21.

The rubber market was steady with spot quoted at 24 15/16 pence per lb. Prices:

No. 1 Rss spot	24⅞-25
Settlement house term:	
Nov.	25-25⅛
Dec.	25⅛-25⅜
Jan./Mar.	25⅛-25¼
Apr./June	25¾-25⅞
July/Aug.	26⅛-26
Oct./Dec.	26⅛-26
General markets, cif basic ports:	
Oct.	24¾-25
Nov.	24¾-25
Dec.	24¾-25
Estate crepe thin Nov.	27¼
thick Nov.	28

—United Press.

AMSTERDAM MARKET

Amsterdam, Oct. 21.

The rubber market was dull today. Prices closed in guilders per kilogram, cif Nov. as follows:

No. 1 rubber: 2.40 buyers; No. 2 rubber: 2.29 buyers; No. 3 rubber: 2.23 buyers; No. 1 crepe: 2.69 buyers.—United Press.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

London, Oct. 21.

Covering entered the stock market today and lifted prices as much as a dollar.

Easing of Middle East tension following King Saud's offer to mediate in the Turkey-Syria dispute was a steadying factor.

Renewed strength in sterling boosted British Government bonds, with gains ranging to as much as a dollar.

Industrials were good but finished slightly below their highs for the day on lower advices from Wall Street. Rolls-Royce, Unilever and Great Universal Stores were high spots.

Oils were strong, paced by British Petroleum and Shell. Rumours that the Government may tighten controls on auto instalment buying kept auto issues to the side lines.

Foreign bonds were quiet with Japanese issues declining slightly on some overseas offerings. Dollar stocks were mostly higher.—United Press.

NAMESAKES

Answers:—1 Donkeys, 2 White, 3 Republican, 4 Operating, 5 House, 6 States, 7 General, 8 America 9 Parties, 10 Deputies, 11 Congress, 12 Elephant, 13 Votes, 14 Warfare, 15 Senate, 16 President.

Dwight Eisenhower.

CHINA MAIL
Established 1845

DISASTROUS CHAIN REACTION

GOVERNOR INSPECTS GUARD OF HONOUR AT GH

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, inspects the Naval Guard which was mounted at Government House this morning in honour of Trafalgar Day (yesterday). The Guard was chosen from Naval and H.K.R.N.V.R. personnel. — (Staff Photographer).

Punched Man Who Refused Loan

A 26-year-old roof-top dweller was this morning sent to prison for one month by Miss B. K. Searle at Central Court when he pleaded guilty to inflicting grievous bodily harm.

The defendant, Wan Kau admitted that on October 5, he approached a man in Gloucester Road and asked him for a loan of fifty cents. The man, Pang Kam-chuen, refused to give him the money and told him to go away.

Later the defendant approached Pang outside 55 Gloucester Road and punched him between the eyes. As Pang was struggling to rise from the ground the defendant kicked him and punched him again.

Pang was taken to the Queen Mary Hospital, where he recovered nearly 14 hours later. He was discharged from Hospital on October 15, ten days after the incident.

Seven Get Service Medals

Colonel E. H. Steele-Baume, Colonel in charge of Administration at Headquarters Land Forces, took the salute and inspected officers and men of the Command Workshops REME unit at Shamshuipo this morning.

The Colonel together with Major W.B.O. Gibson REME, workshop manager, later inspected the Command Workshops.

After the general salute and inspection of the parade Colonel Steele-Baume presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to four Senior Ranks of the unit and to three others who have been attached from District Workshop REME on the Island.

The names of the recipients are:—

WOII A. Blower (REME), WOII F. Keddie (REME); Sgt W. P. Coster (REME), Sgt R. Wilden (REME), WOII F. M. Arkile (RAOC), WOII A. E. G. Champion (REME), Sgt A. B. McTavish (REME).

Man Found In Church, Gaoled

Pleading guilty to being found in Rosary Church, Chatham Road, with intent to steal, Wong Sum-choi, 22, unemployed, was sentenced to three years and six months by Mr Justice A. D. Scholes in the Criminal Sessions this morning.

It was stated that Wong was attempting to break open the poor box when he was interrupted.

Wong who admitted previous convictions dating from 1951, was ordered to be placed under police supervision for two years.

Accused pleaded not guilty to the substantive charge of breaking into the church with intent to steal. The plea was accepted by Crown Counsel G. R. Sneath.

Held By Priests

Mr Sneath told the Court that on the evening of July 15 last, a watchman employed by the church was making his rounds when he saw the figure of a man inside the church which had been locked up for the night.

The watchman shone his torch on the intruder who was working at the poor box with an iron bar, obviously, said Crown Counsel, attempting to break it open.

An alarm was raised and a few moments later the accused was found outside on the grounds of the church. He was seized and held by Roman Catholic priests who had been aroused by the alarm.

It was discovered that the accused effected entry by breaking a pane of glass on the rooftop.

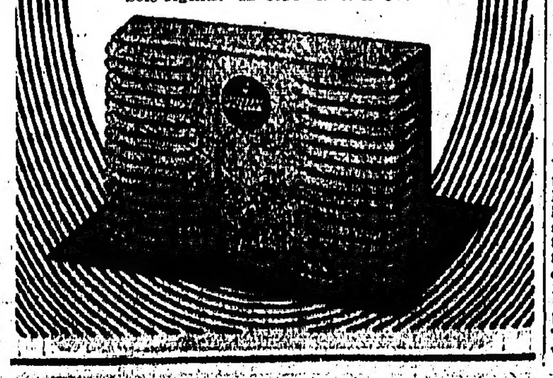
Crown Counsel said that the accused wrapped a piece of cloth around the lock of the box apparently to muffle the sound and was interrupted in the work by the watchman shining his torch through the window.

Nothing, however, was stolen.

Fined $3,000

A precedent partner in a business firm, Edward S. K. Wu was this morning fined a total of $3,000 by Mr Simon F. S. Li at Central Court when he pleaded guilty to failing to submit full and further income tax returns for the period 1955-56, and to failing to submit income tax returns for the period 1956-57.

Defendant, who is employed by the Ying Foong Company, 704 Bank of East Asia Building, was on bail of $5,000.



Effects Of Suez Opening Revealed By Mr J. Marden

Mr John Marden told the annual meeting of Wheelock Marden & Co Ltd today that shipowners generally were in a strong enough position financially to weather the present storm unless it lasted longer than similar disturbances had lasted in the past.

Mr Marden, deputising for Mr G. E. Marden, who is away from the Colony, said the restoration of equilibrium to sea trading routes and practices effected by the reopening of the Suez Canal earlier this year set off what "can only be described as a disastrous chain reaction in freights and tonnage values."

Wheelock's profit for the year was disclosed at $6,029,578 against $7,809,481 last year.

So Low

"These are now at levels so low that no one would have dared to forecast them six months ago. Even the really modern and efficient tramp vessel can earn barely enough to cover depreciation at these levels and their continuance would undoubtedly force many operators to lay up their ships.

"This state of affairs would present a hopeless picture but for the fact that owners generally will have profited from their operations over the last two years and—again generally speaking—are in strong enough a position financially to weather the storm unless indeed it lasts longer than such disturbances have lasted in the past.

"We who have much to do with ships and shipping are accustomed to these violent ups and downs of supply and demand, and whilst we may not view them with equanimity we are not surprised by them, and their possible effects were never excluded from our calculations.

"At the same time we must anticipate both a falling off in new business and the servicing of some of our present clients for longer periods as a result of prevailing conditions.

"A factor in the situation affecting the industry generally is the remunerative employment which a large number of vessels has arranged for varying periods ahead, and it is largely the prospect that conditions may remain depressed which causes disquiet. There would seem to be little softening of liner freights and some experienced tramp operators profess to see hopeful signs.

Credit Squeeze

"Whilst the credit restrictions enforced in the United Kingdom might have been expected to limit what we are perhaps inclined to consider our legitimate minimum requirements, we who enjoy so many of the benefits of membership of the sterling area must expect to shoulder some of the responsibilities.

"We are thankful that local circumstances have enabled our bankers to diminish the full effect of the new measures and it is to be hoped that the Colony will be able to adjust itself to these changes with the resilience that has been displayed in the past.

"Those of us who have memories long enough to recall the days before our currency was tied to sterling will, whilst deploring the present high interest rates, not look upon them as unprecedented.

"Hongkong's industries continue their expansion and the products of our manufacture, together with the services of our merchants, continue in worldwide demand. The liberalising of trade with the mainland has had but little immediate effect on the Colony's economy and we await events in this connection with some caution.

Liquid Position

Mr Marden also revealed:

The Dominion Insurance Co. Ltd. has increased its dividend to 10%. Negotiations are continuing with a view to widening Dominion's activities and seem likely to be completed satisfactorily.

Eastern Asia Navigation Co. Ltd. is now in a comparatively liquid position. Although the fall in freights has caused its Board to defer the acquisition of shipping property, active consideration is being given to re-entering ownership in conjunction with the parent company and suitable propositions are being scrutinised.

The branch of Sherwan Tomes & Co. Ltd., in Singapore, in common with many other firms there, has had to curtail its activities through the extended credit demanded in that area. If certain preliminary plans develop, it is intended to reorganise our interests in Singapore with a view to reducing the cost of trading there.

We have recently acquired an important interest in a London merchanting company having world-wide interests, namely Messrs Hecht, Levy & Kahn Ltd., and I have been invited to a seat on the Board.

Difficulties

We have formed an association with Austrian interests, under the management of Mr C. H. Luzzatto, who are seeking to establish trading connections both here and in South Korea as well as on the European continent.

Far East Flying Training School are having difficulties over terms for land on the new Airport and it may be that if the negotiations with the Government are unsuccessful, this firm will no longer fill the position it has always occupied.

The Realty group gave a most satisfactory report to their shareholders last month, whilst our Textile associates also continue to expand and prosper.

The substantial increase in quoted investments is partly in respect of the additional holding of Textile Corporation shares, to which I referred last year and partly to the holding at our year's end of a large block of London shares. This latter holding formed part of a substantial operation which has since been liquidated with very satisfactory results to ourselves. The market value of quoted investments continues to stand in excess of book value.

Under Current Assets, the figure for Advances against Ships includes this year the item shown separately last year as Shipping Loans (Japan). These Japan loans were reduced by ten million dollars at the end of the year and since then have been reduced by nearly two million dollars.

Adopted

The report and accounts were adopted, the dividend declared, auditors appointed and directors re-elected.

Earlier at the meeting of the East Asia Navigation Co Ltd the net profit for the year was stated to be $567,123 against $420,044 last year.

A 10-cent dividend was declared, auditors were reappointed and directors elected.

Below are a series of questions put to Mr Marden by a shareholder of Wheelock Marden and Co Ltd, Mr Noel Croucher.

QUESTIONS ASKED

QUESTION: Will you give me the particulars of the ships' name, age, gross and deadweight tonnage?

In whose name are the ships registered and under what flag do they sail?

ANSWER: *In the opinion of the Board, it is not in the best interests either of the Company or of our clients to disclose such detailed information. However, the following general information may be of interest to shareholders:—*

There are six vessels under Japanese flag with a total deadweight of 53,000 tons and 33,000 tons gross.

Twenty-five vessels under Panamanian flag with a total deadweight of 140,000 tons and 93,000 tons gross.

Six vessels under British flag with a total deadweight of 36,000 tons and 23,000 tons gross.

All the Panamanian and British vessels except one are registered in companies under our control.

As far as the ages are concerned the oldest is a British flag vessel built in 1914 and the newest is a new building of 12,500 tons.

QUESTION: What percentage of the market value of these ships does the advance of $64,000,000 represent?

At present rates, are the shareholders' funds fully secured and will you give me your assurance on this point?

ANSWER: *In view of the fact that at March the value of tonnage was at its highest and since that date, of course, there has been the fall in values to which the Chairman's Statement refers, no useful purpose can now be served in computing that percentage.*

As at today the amount outstanding in respect of advances against ships is considerably less than the current market value of the vessels concerned and in answer to your $64,000,000 question the advances are fully covered. With regard to the year end position, it is clear that the Auditors would not give their unqualified report without being satisfied that the shareholders' funds were adequately covered.

QUESTION: I notice $10,000,000 of the outstanding Japanese Loan were repaid during the year, were these Funds reinvested, if so, in what manner?

ANSWER: *The Board always seeks to utilise the funds of the company to the best possible advantage and the position must of course be regarded as a whole. There have been no further advances on Japanese flag vessels for some years.*

QUESTION: Is it a fact that some of our Directors are shareholders of Miyachi Co. of Japan to whom Messrs. Wheelock Marden & Co., Ltd. have made advances, the amount of which is included in the figure of $64,000,000?

ANSWER: *The answer to this question is NO.*

Talent Time Finals

The draw for the finals of Television Talent Time, which takes place tonight at 7 p.m. places the competitors in the following order. (1) Al Spencer Ozorio; Singer with Ukelele. (2) Sylvia Souza; Nine-year-old competitor, Singer. (3) Bernado and Santos; Instrumental duet. (4) Colin Short; Singer. (5) Dorothy Knowles; Singer in modern style. (6) Comets Harmonica Trio.

Television Talent Time will run for three-quarters of an hour tonight, and the winner will be announced on the stage.

Fined $40

Lo Hai, 32, junk master, was fined $40 by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central Magistracy this morning for approaching within 100 yards of Stonecutters Island, a prohibited area, on Monday morning and for failure to keep his licence on board the vessel.

Typhoon—But It's Near Guam

A typhoon is developing a little less than 150 miles of Guam.

The Royal Observatory said this morning that at 9 a.m. the tropical storm intensified to a typhoon called Judy and was centred about 140 miles of Guam, moving west at about 12 knots. Pressure remained high over China and Japan.

Weathermen say there will be moderate north-easterly winds blowing in Hongkong. The weather will be cloudy with some fair periods.

Remanded

Charged with stealing an $800 portable typewriter from the flat of Dr F. B. Kunstein of 5M Bowen Road on August 21, Chan Chiu, 28, unemployed, was remanded for three days for further enquiries by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central Magistracy this morning.

DISTRICT COURT RULING REVERSE

Chinese Newspaper Article Subject Of Appeal Case

The Full Court this morning reversed a District Judge's ruling that an article in the newspaper Wah Kiu Man Po was incapable of defamatory meaning, and remitted the case back to the Victoria District Court for determining other issues.

The appellant was Cheng Wai-sum, an actor. The respondents were the Overseas Chinese Daily News Ltd, proprietors and printers of the Wah Kiu Man Po; Shum Wai-yau, publishers; and Au Yeung Pak-chuen, editor.

The Chief Justice, Mr Justice M. J. Hogan, and the Senior Puisne Judge, Mr Justice T. J. Gould, comprised the Full Court.

Mr Oswald Cheung represented the actor, instructed by F. Zimmern and Co. The respondents were represented by Mr D. A. L. Wright, instructed by Lo and Lo.

Admitted

The plaintiff had claimed damages in the sum of $5,000 in respect of a news item published on November 27, last year. The defendants had admitted the publication, but included in their defence a denial that the words were capable of bearing any meaning defamatory to the actor, and this was tried as a preliminary issue by District Judge James Wicks.

The item purported to tell of a street incident in Macao involving the actor.

Giving judgment, the Chief Justice said Counsel for the plaintiff had stressed that the point for decision on this particular issue was not whether, in the circumstances of the case, the words were in fact defamatory, but whether they were capable of being regarded as defamatory by a Jury or a Judge of fact, and that the proper test to be applied was whether, if they had been found defamatory, that decision would be set aside as unreasonable.

No Innuendo

Mr Justice Hogan said Defence Counsel, on the other hand, argued that, as no innuendo had been pleaded, no extended meaning could be given to the words actually published, which must be construed in their ordinary meaning, and maintained that, so construed, the words did not pass the hallowed test of what was defamatory, because they did not hold the plaintiff up to "odium, contempt or ridicule" or disparage him in the eyes of ordinary individuals.

After referring to other arguments by Counsel and to the article itself, Mr Justice Hogan said that although, in all the circumstances, the amount of goodwill which the plaintiff may forfeit or the extent to which he is lowered in the estimation of others may not be great, nevertheless, the Full Court thought it was sufficiently appreciable to make the words capable of being defamatory.

The Chief Justice said the Court thought that the borderline had been crossed, and that the injury to him was not necessary so negligible as to justify the dismissal of the case.

More Convenient

It would appear, His Lordship continued, that the more convenient course, as a rule, would be not to take a decision on such an issue until, at any rate, the plaintiff's case had been completed.

In remitting the case back to the District Court, the Full Court ordered that the costs of the appeal, and of this issue in the lower Court, be paid by the respondents.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—May I please, correct your remarks in yesterday's comment of the day. The survey on which I spoke to the Economic Society of the University last Friday was The Hongkong University and the Hongkong Council of Social Service Resettlement Estates Survey. The interviewing for this survey was undertaken by case-workers of the Social Welfare Office and not, as you say, by undergraduates of the University. They interviewed for the Housing Survey which is still in progress.

The interviewers for the Resettlement Estates Survey met with no difficulties, so far as I know, regarding the divulgence of their incomes (this again was a problem of the Housing Survey), nor was there any mention of "possible repugnance to accepting charity."

I should be grateful if space would be spared in your newspaper for these corrections.

Yours sincerely,
M. C. David (Mrs.)

[According to the text of the speech as published, the survey was undertaken "during the summer vacation by the Departments of Economics and Political Science of the University and the Hongkong Council of Social Services with assistance from the Social Welfare Office". References to possible "reluctance to disclose financial resources" and "possible repugnance to accepting charity" were our own.—Ed.]

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"Not tonight, Eddie! My parents want me to sit here and become a fat, ugly old maid!"

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